

726
M E M O I R S

O F

W O O L,

WOOLEN MANUFACTURE,

A N D

T R A D E,

(Particularly in ENGLAND)

From the Earliest to the Present TIMES;

W I T H

Occasional NOTES, DISSERTATIONS, and REFLECTIONS.

By JOHN SMITH, LL. B.

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**MVSEVM
BRITANNICVM**



M E M O I R S
O F
W O O L, &c.

C H A P. CXIX.

Atlas Maritimus Commercialis, &c. 1727.

1.  H E Woolen Manufactures of *Great Britain*, beyond all Comparison, are the greatest in Value, as well as in the Variety of their Sorts, and the most extensive in the World. The principal Inhabitants in every Part of *Europe*, not *France* itself excepted, are cloathed with them, or would be, if not expressly prohibited.

Which last Article respects *France* chiefly. The *Turks*, through their whole Empire, whether in *Europe*, *Asia*, or *Africa*, wear *English* Cloth, when they are said to dress, even for their Habits of Ceremony, or Robes of State. The Nobility and Gentry of *Persia*, and the Merchants of *Armenia* and *Georgia*, are generally cloathed with it. The *Spaniards*, not at Home only, but in *Mexico* and *Peru*; and the *Portuguese*, as well in *Europe* and in

^{e See Ch. 94.}
^{§. 30, 31.} the *East Indies*, as in the *Brazils*, are principally cloathed with it. The *Venetians* * and *Italians*; the Inhabitants of *Piedmont*, *Savoy*, the *Milanese*, the *Sicilians*, are all chiefly cloathed with our Manufacture, as also the *Greeks* in the Islands of the *Archipelago* and the *Levant*. Even the *Moors* of *Africa* supply themselves with the *English* Manufactures, as do also the *Egyptians*. All the Merchants (of the *European* Nations at least) planted in the *Indies*, furnish themselves from their respective Countries in *Europe*, with *British* Goods to cloath them. The *Dutch* in *Batavia* and *Sumatra*; the *Portuguese* at *Goa* on the Coast of *Malabar*, and even at *Macao* in *China*; the *Spaniards* at *Mindanas*, the *Philippines* and *Ladrones*; and the *British* at all their numerous Factories, from *Mocha* in the *Red Sea*, to *Chusam* in *China*. As to the *British* Plantations and Settlements, where our Manufactures are carried on in a great, and almost incredible Quantity, I make no Mention of them, because I esteem their Produce as our Produce, and our Exports thither as our Home Consumption. But thus it appears, that the *British*, or more properly speaking, the *English* Woolen Manufactures, are the most extended Trade of the Kind in the Universe *.

2. The Hard-Ware Manufactures, or Things made of Brass, Iron, Lead, &c. are very great in Proportion, though not so particularly and singularly extensive beyond the Manufactures of other Countries.

3. The Kingdom of *England* is a populous well planted Country, full of large trading Towns; and as the remotest Counties and Cities in *England* are severally employed in the Woolen Manufactures, so some Sorts are made in one Part of the Nation, and some in another. But the general Market for them all is *London*. And as by the infinite Numbers of People

f. Chap. 48.
 §. 1. Note.

* If the Person I have spoke of^f, who imagined the *English* Export of Woolen Manufacture, to be at least thirty Times as much as the Home Consumption, had seen this Account from the *Atlas Maritimus*, &c. 'tis no Wonder that he had formed to himself such a gigantic Notion. Books under these Titles, are generally understood to be compiled with some Care and Exactness from the very best Materials, and consequently to convey the most authentic Intelligence. But how must a Man lower his Ideas, conceived from this Account, when he comes to understand, that including what is carried to the *British* Plantations, the whole *English* Exports of that Manufacture, were never known, before the Year 1700, to amount to three Millions, in any one Year, and since, not ordinarily to much, if any Thing, more than three; when he is told, that many Years since (when this Island was far less populous than at present, and its Exports of Woolens were accounted but at two) it was computed, that the Home Consumption amounted to six Millions annually. These Things considered, how small a Part of the trading World comparatively, must *England* be supposed to furnish? and consequently how many other and great Woolen Manufacturies must there necessarily be in several Parts of the World besides? Again, the Idea usually conceived of *English* Wool, good as it certainly is, will be greatly lowered, by considering that the finest Cloths of *England*, of which such magnificent Things are justly said, is made, not of *English*, but of the best *Spanish* Wool only.

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in *England*, there is a vast Home Consumption of all the said Manufactures for their own Use, so no Part of the Nation making every Sort, they are obliged to send for what they want to those Countries where they are made, or to *London*, which is the Center of the whole Trade of *England*. This occasions a continual Intercourse of Trade and Correspondence among ourselves; and this I call the Circulation † of Trade, which is so great, that no Inland Trade in *Europe* can compare with it. We find it carried on by the Help of innumerable Pack-Horses, Draught-Horses, Waggon and Carts, Ships, Barges, Lighters, &c. maintaining a Number of Mariners, Watermen, Carriers, Waggoners, Chapmen, Victuallers, Innkeepers, Alehouses, &c.

4. The Manufacture of Clothing, which is carried on in *Wilts* and *Gloucestershire*, consists chiefly in fine mixed or Medley Cloths, or fine Whites to dye Black, Scarlet, &c. and these we call *Spanish Cloths*. The Consumption of which is so great at Home, that the Value of fine Cloth wore by the *English* Gentlemen and Tradesmen, &c. in *England* and *Scotland*, is said to amount to above a Million Sterling *per Ann.* besides the Quantity exported to other Parts of the World. This Manufacture only employs an infinite Number of People, and spreads itself so as to be the principal Business of four very large, populous, and wealthy Counties, namely, *Somersetshire*, *Wiltshire*, *Gloucestershire*, and *Worcestershire*. Some affirm it employs near a Million of People; and some who say they have Calculations of the Numbers, say it employs a great many more.

5. All our Clothing Trade, the making of Bays, Says, Perpets, Serges, Druggets, the Goods made now at *Norwich*, at *Bristol*, in *Yorkshire* and *Sussex*, if they be examined, will prove to be all derived from the original Manufactures of the *Flemings*. The Materials of which Manufactures, particularly the Wool, and Fullers Earth, they had from *England*, where the best Wool, and the greatest Quantity of it was produced, that was to be found in the whole World, as it is to this Day *. But the *English*, though

† And which is indeed the Life of it, and, according to the *British Merchants*, makes more than 19 Parts in 20, of the whole Trade of *Great Britain*. See Chap. 100.

* This Author speaking of *Poland*, says, 'the *Poles* have one Thing more, which they do not rightly know the Value of, or at least have not Industry enough to improve. Their *Sheeps Wool* is the best in all the Northern World, (*English* and *Irish* excepted) and this they bring to *Dantzick*, from whence the *Dutch* fetch great Quantities of it; and it is very helpful to them in their Manufactures at *Leyden*. The *French* also bring some of it away; but they find Ways to get the *English* and *Irish* Wool upon such easy Terms, that they decline the *Polish Wool*. See Ch. 36. Great Quantities however are carried into *Germany*; and now of late the *Swedes* also buy it, in order to assist in the Manufactures they have set up.' N. B. See (Ch. 94. §. 3, 4.) *Woolen Manufactures at LEYDEN, the best in EUROPE*; probably therefore, some *Polish Wools* are equally good as, if not better, than the Bulk of *English* and *Irish* Wools. §. 2. Note.

their Wool brought them in a great Mass of Wealth, began at last to see their Error ; and about the Year 1450, it came to be considered, why the Wool might not as well be manufactured in *England* as in *Flanders*. Upon these Considerations, a Stop was gradually put to the Export of the Wool ; the Clothing was encouraged in *England*, also Manufacturers gotten from the *Netherlands* to instruct our People. In the Reign of *Henry VIII.* Improvements were made ; and the *English* having no Tax to pay upon their Wool, (which the *Flemings* had) it was a great Advantage to them. All this while ^{i See Ch. 175.} the People of *England* made no more than what was consumed ^{Nº. 1. §. 6.} at Home, nor were they able to supply the Demand of their own Country by a great deal. But the *Flemings* had still the whole Trade to all the rest of the World.

6. At length came the happy Reign of *Queen Elizabeth*, when, to compleat the Ruin of the *Flemings* as to Trade, the Exportation of Wool was ^{k Chap. 26.} absolutely ^{§. 6.} prohibited ; and the chief Master Manufacturers came over and ^{Chap. 33.} set up their respective Manufactures at *Norwich, Leeds, Hallifax, Wakefield, Exeter, Colchester.* This put a full Stop to the *Flemish* Trade, as to their ^{§. 4.} Manufacture of WOOL ; what they have done since, has been by the Help of such Wool as they could get from *France, Germany, Scotland*, and other Places, and some by *Stealth* from *England* ; which began the *Owling* Trade from *Rumney Marsh*.

7. But to *Monfieur Colbert* we owe this fatal unhappy Trade of *Owling*, as it is carried on to this Day on the Coasts of *Kent* and *Sussex*, and which all the Laws, the Soldiers, and the Arts of Custom-House Officers, or of the Government of *Great Britain*, have not been able to suppress, at least not totally. By this Means, the *French* being able to furnish their own People in a few Years, they not only excluded the *English* Manufacture, but began to rival the *English* in all the foreign Markets of *Europe*, as in *Spain, Portugal, and Italy* ; and also in *Asia*, but especially in *Turkey* and *Barbary*.

8. At the famous Manufactory near *Nismes* in *Languedoc*, Cloths are made so admirably well, that some have even thought they outdid the *English* ; and certain it is, they are very good, but want the Substance and Firmness, and Weight of the *English*. They have likewise imitated the *British* Serges, Says, long Ells, Perpetuana's, Druggets, but not to such Perfection as they have the Cloths, yet to so great a Degree, that they have extremely lessened the Demand for those Goods in *Italy* and *Spain* ; and we had some
Threats

Threats that they would throw us out of the Trade at *Cadiz*, for the *Spanish West-Indies*; and perhaps they might have gone a great Way towards it, had not the Hand of Heaven interposed, and given the *French* such a Blow by the late Plague in *Languedoc*, as it's thought they will never recover, or at least not in many Years.

9. *France* had several little Manufactures among them in former Times which by Reason of the great Vent they had for them to *England*, were very profitable to them, but which by the Industry of the *English* and *Dutch* are now greatly lessened, and as to their Exportation, almost ruined, viz. 1. *Hats*. This was a very considerable Manufacture in *France*, made chiefly at *Caudebec* on the River *Seine*, and from thence exported in great Quantities to *England*, &c. But we have not only left off wearing those Hats, but have fallen into the way of making light Hats like those, so much better, and yet so cheap, that there are scarce any Hats now made at *Caudebec*; what they use being made now chiefly at *Roan* and *Paris*, and few or none exported. *England* also now supplies *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Italy*, and *Germany*, with Hats in an extraordinary Quantity. And the Manufacture is lost to the *French* as a Merchandize, and for Exportation. 2. *Glass*. Their *Normandy Window Glass* was the same for Kind, of which so great a Quantity is now made in *England*, and which we call *Crown Glass*. The *English* formerly had it only from *France*, and imported great Quantities of it yearly; whereas they now make so much in *England*, that they supply many other Countries with it, and withal, make it so good and cheap, that some say it is better than the *French*. The like is to be said of all Sorts of Plate Glass for Coaches, Looking Glasses, &c. all which the *English* were formerly supplied with from *France*. I might mention several other Articles of the *French* Manufactures, which for want of a Market in *England*, where their principal Consumption was, are very much decay'd, and in a manner quite sunk; I mean as to Exportation, the *English* having set up the same among themselves; such as the Hard-Ware Manufactures in particular, viz. Scissars, Razors, Locks and Keys, and all Sorts of wrought Iron and Brass, of which the *English* now send great Quantities even to *France* itself; also Soap, Bone Lace, and especially wrought Silks; which was once so great a Trade from *France*, that *England* imported to the Value of 700,000*l.* per Ann. in wrought Silks only; whereas that Part is now reduced to nothing. (See Chap. 103. §. 6. Note.)

The Yearly
Value of
wrought Silks
formerly im-
ported from
France.

10. But the Plague has been a double Blast upon them; for besides the

Havock it made of their People in some of the most populous Provinces, where the Manufactures were carried on to the greatest Height, all the Ports of *Europe* have been, as it were, shut against them; and so far have their Neighbours been from admitting them to trade, that several of their Ships are said to have perished at Sea, the Men being starved to Death, merely because they could not be suffered to put into any Port for Provisions, or for so much as fresh Water. This at once deprived them for many Months, of all the Trade of the whole Kingdom of *Spain*, as well as of all the Ports of *Italy*; not a Piece of their Goods, whether Linen or Silk, was permitted to go in the Galleons to *New Spain*, or in the *Portuguese* Fleets to *Brazil* for two Years together; in both which consisted the Life and Prosperity of their Manufactures, and by which they were always supplied in ready Money in Specie for carrying them on.

11. And as I said, that *France* is deficient in its Produce, as to some necessary Things, which it cannot be without, and which are not only useful for their home Consumption, but also for the Employment of their People, and Support of their Manufactures, so it must necessarily follow, that they import greater Quantities of such Goods from abroad. First they have neither Wool nor *Silk*, or at least had neither, 'till they learned by their Necessity to plant the last, and get the first by a clandestine Trade from *England*; but,

¹ Ch. 105.
§. 12, 14.

N. B. We are not to suppose, when we say the *French* have no Wool, that there is no Sheep in *France*; or that the Sheep have no Wool on their Backs; on the contrary, there is a great deal of Wool, and such as they make many Goods and Manufactures of, as particularly the Ruffs and coarse Cloths which their Peasants wear, and which are almost as coarse and as rough as our Blankets; also Rugs, Blankets, Caps, Hats, and several such Things useful in their Kind. But when we say they have no Wool, we mean they have it not fine¹ enough, nor a sufficient Quantity, to carry on their fine Manufacture of CLOTHS, STUFFS, SERGES, and such Goods as are made in *England* and *Ireland*. To remedy this, they import Wool clandestinely with great Art and Application, and some Hazard too, from *England*, but especially from *Ireland*. They also import it openly from *Spain*, from *Barbary*, and some from *Germany*; in a word, from all Places where it can be had*.

* To shew then in what Parts of the World Wool is produced, as also what the *French* have within themselves, I shall, without Regard to the Year when printed, they being modern Books, proceed to give Extracts from the *Atlas general*, and from *Salmon's Modern History*, or the present State of all Nations.

C H A P. CXX.

The Atlas general, &c.

1. **I** *Celand* or *Ifeland*. The *Wool* of their *Sheep* is coarse as *Hair*.—— Page 17.

Their Trade is by Barter. Their Product, Butter——coarse *Woolen Cloth*, &c. The King's Revenue is paid in dried Fish, *coarse Cloth*, &c.

2. *Norway*. Their Beasts are black Cattle, Horses and *Sheep*, wild and tame. The tame *Sheep* fed in Inclosures separated by Ditches. He is accounted a good Farmer who has 500 of them: They lose many of them in hard Winters. Most of them, in the West Parts, are white, in the South, black. Knit Hose is their chief Manufacture; 60,000 Pair of which are annually exported. Their Cloaths are generally of a coarse Flannel, and of one Fashion; but they have a finer Sort for Church and Market. Their Bedding is Hay, with a little Flannel spread over it. The Women weave fine Bed-Cloaths of several Colours, with fine Stockings and Woolen Waistcoats; they dye all themselves. The Farmers are obliged to keep a certain Number of *Sheep* and Cattle for the King's Use, and to pay him a fixed Rate for their own. Page 20, 21.

3. *Sweden*. The *Wool* of their *Sheep* is very coarse; they have Woolen Manufactures from *England*; but of late they make coarse Cloth of their own, to supply their Army, and have laid such Taxes on *Engl^{ish}* Cloth, as amounts almost to a Prohibition. Page 26.

4. *Muscovy* in *Europe*, Horses, black Cattle, *Sheep*. (*Astracan*) plenty of Beef, Mutton, &c. (*Nagaisky*, or the Country of the *Nagrarian Cossan Tartars*) their black Cattle large, and the Tails of their *Sheep* so fat that some of them weigh 30 Pounds. Page 33. Page 36. Page 37.

5. *Poland*, *Sheep* in great Plenty. *Lithuania* abounds with black Cattle, *Sheep*, &c. The Western Parts export from *Dantzick*, Corn, *Wool*, &c. Page 40. Page 52.

6. *Germany*. Its chief Commodities, *Wool*, &c. *Islands* on the Coasts of *Pomerania*. (*Rugen*) well stocked with *Sheep*. (*Brandenburgh* Marquisate and Electorate, 170 Miles long, 100 broad) They have great Flocks of *Sheep*, but not black Cattle in Proportion. *La Forest* says, were the People as much given to Trade, as to Drinking and good Cheer, they might
Vol. II. B make

make considerable Profit of their Sheep. But since his Time, the Trade of that Country is much improved. *French* Refugees and other Protestants, entertained, privileged and naturalized, have settled there many useful Manufactures. Marquisate of *Lusatia* (*Gorlitz*) a good Trade in Dying and Dressing Linen and *Woolen*. *Wetteravia* (*Dittingburgh*) two annual Fairs for Cattle and Wool. *Hesse* (*Lower Hesse*) in the Valleys, Flocks of *Sheep*, that bear the best of Wool in *Germany*, which used to be bought by the *English Merchants*. (*Cassel*) the adjacent Fields are covered with Flocks of *Sheep*, Wool their chief Trade. (*Waldeck*) plenty of *Sheep*. (Circle of *Suabia*) this Country has a good Breed of Horses, black Cattle, *Sheep*. Circle of *Austria* (*Dutchy of Silesia* 220 Miles long, and 90 where broadest) Their principal Commodities for Trade, *Wool*, &c. In this *Dutchy* are many high Mountains, but two Ridges are remarkable; one of them, by the Natives called *Jablunca*, abounds with great Flocks of *Sheep*. (*Moravia*) a good Breed of Horses, black Cattle, *Sheep*. (*Iglaw*) the chief Trade, coarse *Woolen Cloths* and Beer. (*Stiria Dutchy*, 130 Miles East and West, 130 South and North) *Upper*, abounds with *Sheep*, barter Wool with the *Lower* for Wine. The seven United Provinces have great Numbers of *Sheep*, but the best are in *Zealand*. *Overyssel* (*Swoll*) its Trade, Cattle, Wool, &c. (*Leyden*) the chief Manufacture, *Camblets*, *Cloth*; of which 100,000 Pieces have been made here in one Year. (*Zealand*) good Pasture for *Sheep*, especially on the Shores.

7. (The *Spanish*, now the *Austrian Netherlands*) the *Flemings* lay claim to the teaching other Nations the Way to make Cloth. They claim also the Invention of *Worsted*s, *Says*, and other Stuffs, which they taught the *English*, when drove from the Duke *d'Alva*'s Persecution. (*Ghent*) their chief Trade, besides Corn, is in *Cloths*, *Stuffs* and *Silks*, which employs a third Part of their 50 Companies of *Tradesmen*. (*Bruges*) they have still a Trade in *Spanish Wool*, Manufactures of *Cloth*, *Fustian*, *Stuffs*, and *Tapestry*. (*Ypres*) a large Market Place; in which an ancient Hall, a Store-house for their Wool. (*Courtray*) noted for good *Diaper* and *Cloth*. (*Tournay*) has a considerable Trade in *Woolen Cloth*. (*Dendermond*) a considerable Trade in *Fustians* and other Stuffs. (*Malines* or *Mechlin*) their chief Manufactures, *Lace*, &c. *Linen*, and *Woolen Cloth*. *Austrian Brabant* (*Drest*) is noted for Manufactures of *Linen* and *Woolen*. *Hainault* (*Valencienne*) several spacious Halls belonging to Companies of *Tradesmen*; the chief that of the *Cloth Workers*, formerly remarkable for a Trade; not their

their chief Manufacture now, but rather Silks and Linens. (*Maubeuge*) has a considerable Trade in *Woolen Cloth*.

8. FRANCE, their chief Commerce is in Wine, Brandy, Oil of Olives, *Page 132.*
Cloths, *Camblets*, *Silk*, and *Woolen Stuffs*; in short, they have *all Things*
 necessary for Life, can easily be without the Commodities of other Nations,
 tho' few can be without theirs. (*Orchies*) noted for *Woolen Stuffs*. (*Do-* *Page 133.*
way) an annual Fair in *September*, where are sold great Quantities of *Worst-*
ed Camblets. (*Abbeville*) a considerable Trade in *Linen Cloth*, *WOOL*, and *Page 134.*
Corn. (*Amiens*) chief Trade, *Stuffs*. *Isle of France* (*Beauvais*) a good
 Trade in *Linen Cloths*, *Stuffs* &c. the best Mutton in the Nation. *Nor-*
mandy (*Aumarle* or *Albemarle*) noted for *Woolen Cloths*. *Bretagne*, *Orlea-* *Page 139.*
nois, (*Bourges*) great Flocks of Sheep, whose *WOOL* is famous. (*Char-* *pag. 140.*
tres) noted for Manufactures. (*Nogent le Rotrou*) considerable in *Serges*.
 (*Poitieu*) the Province abounds in *Cattle*, *WOOL*, &c.—*Champagne* (*Cha-* *Page 141.*
lons) a considerable Trade in *Cloth*, &c. (*Meziers*) a fine Manufacture of
Cloth. *Lyonois* (*Lyons*) very ancient, the Metropolis of the Country in *Au-* *Page 142.*
gustus's Time, and had a great Trade in *Cloth*. (*Bourbonnois*) abounds in
Wine, *WOOL*, &c. *Guienne* (*Pergieux*) abounds with Pastures, Flocks, *Page 143.*
 &c. (*Drax*) its Product—*Cattle*, *WOOL*, &c. (*Lower Navarre*) the *Pag. 144.*
 Valleys have good Pasturage; the *Wool* of their Sheep is fine. *Languedoc*
 (*Castres*) noted for a Manufacture of *Crape*. (*Castle Naudari*) for a Ma- *Page 145.*
 nufacture of *Woolen Cloth*. (*Nismes*) for a Manufacture of good *Serge*.
 (*Ufex*) famous for its Manufacture of *Cloth* and *Serges*. (*The Cevennes*
 and *Vivareze*) the mountainous Parts abound with Flocks.

9. SWITZERLAND (Canton of *Zurich*) has a good Trade, especially in *Page 149.*
Crapes, which is their Manufacture.

10. SPAIN, their *Wool* the finest in *Europe*. PORTUGAL, excellent *Page 152.*
 Pasturage, great Herds of black *Cattle* and *Sheep*. *Pag. 157.*

11. ITALY (*Savoy*) *Cattle* of all Sorts; so that they export *Hides*, *Page 159.*
Flesh, *Wool*, &c. (*The Island of Corsica*) Abundance of *Sheep*. (*The*
Veronese) has Plenty of——*Wool*, &c. (*The Vincentin*) abounds with—— *Page 162.*
Wool, &c. (*Parma*) fine *Wool*. (*Tuscany* or *Florence*) Commodities,—— *Pag. 163.*
Wool, *Flax*, *Serges*, *Woolen Cloth*, &c. (*The Republick St. Marino*) *Page 165.*
 no black *Cattle*, but Abundance of *Sheep*. (*Taranto*) furnishes a great *Pag. 166.*
 deal of fine *Wool*. (*Calabria citerior*) *Corn*——*Wool*, &c. *The Venetian* *Pag. 168,*
 Dominions on the East Side of the *Adriatick*, and in the *Ionian Sea*, and *Pag. 173.*

Page 175. *Arcbi-Pelago*. (*Dalmatia*) abounds with Corn,—Sheep, &c. (*Cephalonia*)
 Page 179. with Oil, Wine,—Wool, &c.

12. HUNGARY, TRANSYLVANIA. (*Hermanstat*) the chief Trade, Cloth and Mead. (*Segeswar*) a Manufacture of Cloth.

Page 180. 13. TURKEY in *Europe* (*Walachia*) Plenty of black Cattle, Sheep, &c.
 pag. 181. (*Salonichi*) considerable for its Traffick in Wool. (*Thermia*) Plenty of—
 pag. 184. Wool, &c.

Page 234. 14. SCOTLAND, As to there WOOL, they have great Abundance; and tho' it be not generally so good as that in *England*, yet they have some in *Galloway*, *Tweeddale*, and the North, which is very fine. The Manufactures they make of it, are broad Cloths, which they had brought to great Perfection before the Union. They also make their Wool into coarse Cloth, &c. The *Glasgow Plads* exceed all that Sort of Manufacture in the World. The *Scots* have a peculiar way of Dying the Wool for *those Plads* in Grain; which the *Norwich* Manufacturers and others, have endeavoured to imitate, but come very short of. They make worsted Stockings at *Aberdeen* for Women, from 10 to 30s. per Pair. They are spun of *fine Wool* from the *Highlands*, and so much valued, that Mens Stockings of that Sort, are sometimes sold at 50s. and 3. l. a Pair.

Page 237. 15. THE SHIRE OF BERWICK. (*Lammer Moor*) a Tract of Hills about 16 Miles long and 6 broad, feeds Multitudes of *Sheep*. (Shire of *Roxburgh*) abounds with *Sheep*, &c. (of *Selkirk*) here are great Flocks of *Sheep*. (*Tweeddale*) chief Product, *Sheep*, Cattle, &c. WOOL extraordinary good. (*Galloway*) this County abounds with *Sheep*, which bear very good Wool. (*Carrick*) abounds with *Sheep*. (*Stirling*) with *Sheep*. (*Lenox*, or the Shire of *Dumbarton*) the mountainous Parts abound with Pasture, and numerous Flocks. (Shire of *Fife*) the middle Parts have Plenty of Pasture, and numerous Flocks and Cattle, especially *Sheep*, whose Wool is much esteemed. (Shire of *Aberdeen*) Abundance of *Sheep*.—(of *Ross*) feeds great Numbers of Cattle, *Sheep*, &c. (of *Sutherland*) abounds with Corn, *Sheep*, &c. Here are many commodious Harbours, from whence they export Corn, Wool, &c. (*Strathnarven*) great Herds of Cattle, Horses, *Sheep*, &c.

Page 253. 16. The Western Islands in the Shire of ARGYLE, (*Gigay*) abounds with black Cattle, Horses, *Sheep*, &c. (*Jura*) well inhabited, abounds with black Cattle, *Sheep*. (*Oranxa*) Cattle, Horses, and *Sheep* of a low Size. (*Colonia*) not very fruitful; but has Abundance of black Cattle and *Sheep*.
 Page 254. (*Mull*,

(*Mull*, 24 Miles long and 24 broad) here is Store of *Sheep*, &c. (*Lismore*, with several other small Islands) good Pasturage for *Sheep*. (*Skyes* 42 Miles long, from 30 to 20 broad) Abundance of Horses, black Cattle, *Sheep*. This Island yields *Fullers Earth*. (Several small Islands adjacent) with good Pasturage. (*Northoist* and Islands adjacent) Abundance of black Cattle and *Sheep*. (*Lewis* and *Harns*) *Sheep* exceeding fat.

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17. SHIRE OF ORKNEY. (The *Orcades* or *Orkney Isles*) good Store of *Sheep*. (*Isles of Schetland*) more Pasturage than Corn.

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18. IRELAND, the Soil is generally fruitful, but fitter for Pasturage than Corn; upon which *Sheep*, and other Cattle, thrive exceedingly. The *Irish* Cattle of all Sorts, are generally of a small Size. But those brought from *England*, thrive exceeding well, and neither degenerate in Size, nor Goodness.

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Part 2.

19. ASIA, *Natolia* (*Prusia*, or *Prusa*, now *Boursa* or *Bourse*) the chief Trade here is in Silks, Stuffs,---fine Wool, &c. (*Sardis* in *Lydia*) the Inhabitants for the most Part SHEPHERDS. (*Miletum*, now *Palatichia*) it was famous for Wool and Coverlets.

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20. Islands of *Natolia* (*Mytilene*, or *Metelin*) they have Plenty of SHEEP. (*Scio*, formerly *Chios*, 120 Miles in Circuit) one Commodity of the Island Wool. (*Samo*, or *Samos*) many Beefs, their *Sheep* few in Proportion. The *French* load a Bark with Wool once *per Ann.* and buy two Ounces for two *Sous*.

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21. SYRIA (from North to South 300 Miles, from East to West 250) feeds vast Herds of Cattle, and particularly *Sheep*. (*Damascus*^m) *Lucas*^m says, the SHEEP here are very large. (*Arabia Felix*) Mutton fine and sweet.

Page 160.

^m Ezek.

xxvii. 18.

22. PERSIA furnishes most of *Romania* and *Natolia* with SHEEP. (*Hamadani*) near this Place, the Wool of the *Sheep* longer and finer than others. (*Ispahan*) near this City, 1460 Villages, the Inhabitants of which live mostly by Manufactures of Silk and *Woolen*. (*Iesa*, or *Yesda*) a City noted for Manufacture of *Serges*, of a particular *Wool*, handsomer and better than Silk. (*Chorasan* Province) here are SHEEP of different Sorts; particularly, one that has long grey shining Wool. (*Kerman* or *Karman*, 330 Miles from South to North, 180 East and West) their *Sheep* bear the finest Wool in *Persia*.

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23. INDOSTAN, or the Empire of the Great *Mogul*, the fruitfulest Country of all *Asia*, (which is esteemed the most fruitful Part of the whole World) in Corn, Cattle, &c. Their *Sheep* have short, but very fine Wool. (*Cachemire*) the Natives excel in varnishing and making Stuffs called *Chales* of

Page 186.

Page 187.

of

- of fine Wool, or Goats Hair, which last are finer and softer than *Castor*.
 Page 188. Both Sexes wear Mantles of them in Winter. (*Multan*) their Manufactures are good *white Cloth* — *red Stuffs*, &c. (*Labor*) in the Towns,
 Page 191. Manufactures of every Thing made in the Empire. (*Surgat*) the *English East-India* Company export Cloth to *Bantam*; import Gold and Elephants Teeth from *Sumatra*, in Exchange for Corn and Drugs, and *Carmania Wool* from *Persia*. (*Cananor*) the Province abounds with — black Cattle,
 Page 194. SHEEP, &c. (*Calicut*) Goods imported hither — Wool, &c. (*Gingi*) the chief Manufacture, Linen and *Woolen Stuffs*. (*Orixa*) Rice, Cottons,
 Page 195. CLOTHS, &c. (*Narvar*) abounds with Wool. Here are vast Flocks of
 pag. 197. SHEEP, whose WOOL is reckoned equal to *Spanish*. (*Sandage*) noted for
 pag. 199. Manufactures of Wool. (*Bengal*) here are Abundance of SHEEP. (*Hughly*
 pag. 200. or *Ougly*) Goods of all Sorts — fine Cloth.
 Page 201.
 Page 202. 24. The *Peninsula* beyond the *Ganges* — (*Arracan*) in the neighbouring Country, numerous Flocks of great and small Cattle.
 Page 214. 25. CHINA (*Chenfi* or *Xenfi*) the Inhabitants shear their Sheep and Goats thrice a Year. Indian Islands (*Java*) black Cattle, Sheep.
 Page 219. 26. AFRICA, *Barbary* (*New Fex*) the Trade of Import, consists of *English*
 pag. 227. and *other Woolen Cloth*. The Goods exported, are, Wax, Skins, Wool, &c. (*Tunis*) 3000 Shops sell Linen and Woolen; their chief Trade with the *Venetians* and *Genoese*.
 Page 228. 27. EGYPT, their Sheep usually bring forth twice a Year. (*Caffreria*, which contains all the most Southern Parts of *Africa*) they have Store of Beeves and Sheep, which they exchange on the Coasts for Tobacco and Brandy. They don't value Cloths of Linen and Woolen. (*Madagascar*)
 Page 234. abounds in Fruit, Pasturage, Sheep.
 Page 240. 28. AMERICA (*Pensylvania*) the Inhabitants send Tallow, Sheep, Wool, &c. to our Sugar Islands. (*Maryland*) * little or no Woolen Manufactures, but in *Somersetshire*. (*Carolina*) they make fine Druggets mixed with Silk and Wool. (*Jamaica*) the Sheep generally large and fat, but the Wool

Maryland, Aug. 13, 1746.

Gen. Ev.
Post, Oct.
25, 1746.

* 'European Goods sell here at a monstrous Rate, which is ruinous to us. — But we can't as yet do without them, being so entirely taken up with Tobacco, as to neglect the more useful Commodities, our Cloaths. — However, we are beginning to manufacture OUR WOOL and Flax; and I doubt not, shall make good Linen and WOOLEN CLOTH. And if the War continues, shall be able to furnish ourselves, without troubling *Great Britain*.' (See Chap. 127. §. 24, 27.)

good

good for nothing. (*Barbadoes*) the Earl of *Carlisle* obtained a Grant of it from King *Charles I.* The Colony prospered, and great Quantities of *Indigo*, Cotton, Wool, &c. were sent to *London.* (*Tobago Island*) a perpetual Spring; numerous Herds of tame and wild Beasts, Sheep, &c.

Page 244.
pag. 246.

Chap. 85.
§. 7. Note.
Page 247.

29. The *DUTCH* Dominions in *America* (*Bonair Island*, 17 Leagues round) abounds with Sheep and black Cattle. (*Oruba* or *Auruba*) the chief Product — Sheep, &c.

Page 250.

30. The *SPANISH* Dominions in *America* — (*Old Mexico*) Length 2750 Miles South-East and North West, (Breadth unknown) great Flocks of Sheep. (*Puebla de los Angeles*) a large Town of 1500 Families. Here is a Manufacture of Cloth as good as any in *Spain.* (*Guaxaca*) in a neighbouring Valley, great Herds of Cattle and Sheep, which afford Wool to Clothiers of *Los Angeles.* (*Chiappa*) good Horses, Goats, Sheep, &c. (*Guatemala* proper) some Graziers here so rich to have 40,000 black Cattle, and as many Sheep. (*Peru*) their Sheep large, their Wool fine. (*Quito*) the chief Trade of Export, is in Cocoa, Hides, Tallow, *Woolen Cloth.* (*Chili*) Length 1740 Miles, not of equal Breadth. The Meadows full of Cattle, and particularly a large Kind of Sheep. (The Province of *Rio de la Plata*, South and North 1270 Miles, East and West 1200) excellent Pasturage, Abundance of Sheep.

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Page 256.

Page 257.

Page 260.

31. *BRAZIL*, the Captain Ship of *Del Rey*, abounds with Pepper, Ginger, rich Furrs, Cotton, *Wool* and Wax.

C H A P. CXXI.

Modern History, or the present State of all Nations, &c. By Mr. Salmon. In 3 Vols. Quarto.

1. *CHINA*, Sheep like those of *Turkey.* (*Japan*) the *Dutch* transport thither Wool. (*Proper India* and *Tartary*) very fine Sheep with good *Fleeces.* *PERSIA* (Province of *Kirman*) Worsted Druggets made, Sheep many, large, &c. *RUSSIA*, Sheep, *Woolen* Manufacture. *SWEDEN*, Sheeps Wool coarse, fit to make Cloathing for the common People. The *Woolen* Manufacture of late so far improved there, and *English* *Woolen*

Page 21.

49, 310,

385, 394,

714, 723,

752, 755.



Woolen Goods under such Discouragements, that it is become scarce worth the while to send any thither. POLAND, noble Meadows and Pasture Grounds; Wool exported in great Plenty, and tolerably good.

Page 840.

847.

Vol. 2. p. 3.

2. BOHEMIA, a deal of good Meadow and Pasture; abounds in Oxen and Sheep. The Manufactures there, Linen and Woolen; in which, arrived at no great Perfection. They transport Part of their Wool to other Countries. (*Transilvania*) one Manufacture Cloth. (*Vienna*) furnished with Sheep from *Hungary*; in the upper *Styria* the Natives feed large Flocks of Sheep, which afford good Wool. (*Brandenburgh*) large Flocks of Sheep. (*Island of Rugen*) well stocked with Sheep. (*Prussia*) a large Woolen Manufacture. (*Lunenburgh Walstrode*) the Trade consists in Wool, &c. (*Bremen*) Commodities exported are, Wool, &c. (*Hesse Landgrate*) in their Plains, numerous Flocks of Sheep, which yield the finest Wool in *Germany*, which is *bought up by the *English* Merchants, as equal, if not preferable to their own. (*Dillingburgh* and *Herbron*) a tolerable Trade in Woolen Cloth wrought there. (*Ufften in Westphalia*) considerable for a Manufacture of Cloth. (The North Part of *Brabant*) accounted barren, affording only Pasturage for Sheep—Except Tin and Lead, Sugar and Tobacco; there are very few Things produced either in *England*, or our Plantations, which the *Austrians* and *French Netherlands* stand in Need of.

Page 22,
67, 69, 88,
92, 95, 102,
106.

Page 113.

Page 116,
144, 256,
273.

Page 278,
337, 342,
350.

Page 356.
358, 470,
471, 477.

Page 495,
496, 498.

SWITZERLAND (Canton of *Zurich*) a principal Manufacture is *Crape*. (*Italy*) the Wool of *Parma* is not inferior to any in *Italy*. In *Tuscany* there is said to be a Woolen Manufacture. The Sheep of the *Paduan* afford a good Sort of Wool, little inferior to that of *England*. At *Venice*, the Woolen Manufacture is so considerable, that Foreign made Cloths are there prohibited. The *Veronese* abounds in Wool, &c. *Cephalonia*, an Island, produces Wool, &c. (*Corfica*) Plenty of Sheep. (*Malta*) Mutton and Lambs exquisitely good-----In the Year 1726, the Vice-Roy of *Sicily* received Orders from the Imperial Court, to forbid several Species of *English Woolen Goods*, proper for a warm Country, in order to encourage the same from *Germany*.

3. FRANCE (*Picardy*) several good Manufactures of Linen and Woolen. (*Chalons*) a pretty good Trade in Woolen Cloth. (*Meaux*) the adjacent Country produces Wool. The Province of *Champagne*, Wool, which is a principal Manufacture there. (The Territory of *Arles*, 30 Miles in Ex-

* Used to be (I presume, it should be said) before *English Wool* was prohibited to be exported, but since which, the *English Wool* has been so much cheaper than all others comparatively, that now they import none but the best *Spanish Wools*.

tent) an excellent Pasture for Sheep. (*Provence*) from *Marseilles* to *Italy*, go annually 6000 * Bales of CLOTH, SERGES, &c. To *Spain* a vastly greater Quantity. Returns in Wool of *Segovia*, &c. to a very great Value. (*Turkey* and *Levant* Trade) of their own Growth or Manufacture, WOOLEN CLOTH, SERGES. (From *Constantinople*) Sheeps Wool. (To *Salonica* or *Theffalonica*) English Cloth, or Cloth in Imitation thereof, importing from thence Wool. Page 508.
514.
Page 515.

4. (In the *Archipelago*) a particular Company of Merchants trade from *Marseilles* to *Satalia*, a Sea Port of *Pamphilia*, who carry only Silver thither, for which they bring back Wool, &c. (To *Alexandria*, the Port Town to *Grand Cairo* in *Egypt*) go ten or twelve Ships, the Goods carried, are Caps, &c. for which they bring back Wool, &c. (*Clermont*) a royal Manufactory, where is made most of the Cloth carried to the *Levant*. (*Ufex* Diocese) feeds great Numbers of Sheep. Page 519.
Page 521.

5. (Trade of *Languedoc*) Woolen Cloth to *Germany*, *Switzerland*, and the *Levant*, and with which they cloath the King's Troops, viz. (*Tholouse* Trade) Spanish Wool, coarse Hangings, Stuffs of Silk, and Wool. (In the Diocese of *Alet*) a Woolen Manufactory. (Diocese of *Castres*) SERGES, BAYS, &c. (Diocese of *St. Pons*) some Woolen Manufactory. (The City and County of *Carcaffone*) extremely barren, one great Woolen Manufactory. (Diocese of *Lodeve*) some fine Druggets made, and exported to *Germany*. (Diocese of *Agde*) their Wool is fine. The WOOL Trade is most considerable, which is carried on at *Montpelier*. They import their Wool from *Smyrna*, *Constantinople*, *Sally*, *Tunis* and *Spain*, and either manufacture it themselves, or vend it unwrought in the neighbour Provinces. (City of *Nismes*) great Variety of Manufactures. (In the *Vivarez*) the Mountains called *Boutiers*, though esteemed barren, afford Pasture for Sheep. (The *Gevauden*) the People have a good Manufacture of *Serges* and other Woolen Stuffs, which they export to *Germany*, *Switzerland*, and the *Levant*, to the Value of two Millions of Livres. (Diocese of *Alais*) the Riches thereof consists in Woolen Manufactures, such as DRUGGETS, SERGES, &c. reckon'd stronger and better than those of *Gevauden*. Page 523.
Page 524.

6. ROUSSILLON, very fruitful, large Flocks of Sheep. (*Guienne* and *Gascony*) some Woolen Manufactures, not much to export. (*Bayonne*) a con- Page 526.

* The Reader may be pleased to observe, that though Figures are here used, yet Mr. Salmon's Account is in Words at Length; and wherein he has probably exceeded the Truth.

Page 532. fiderable Port ; whence *Spanish* Wool is distributed to all the Provinces of
 Page 534 *France*, where there are Woolen Manufactures. (*Rochelle*) some say, STUFFS
 and SERGES, and other Woolen Manufactures to the Northern Kingdoms.
 Page 536. (*Poitiers* and the District) the Trade, Worsted Stockings, &c. some Wool also
 sold at their Fairs ; and Druggets, the Manufacture of *Parthenoy*. (*Maxi-*
ent) a Woolen Manufacture. (*Niort*) the Manufacture of Woolen Stuffs
 considerable.

Page 540. 7. BRITANY (*Nants*) its principal Trade to *America*. About 50 Ships
 go annually, with Necessaries of all Kinds for the Plantations. Returns
 Page 541. in — Wool, &c. (*St. Malo*) the Merchants send the Woolen Manu-
 factures of *Amiens* and *Rheims* to *Cadiz*, and from thence to the *Spanish*
 Plantations. Returns, *Spanish* Wool, &c.

8. NORMANDY, the Woolen Manufacture employs several Thousands ;
 but the Cloth and Stuffs are vended chiefly in *France*.

Page 548. 9. MAINE and PERCHE. (*Maine*) a Manufacture of Woolen Serges and
 Stuffs. (*Perche*) *French* Stuffs made, the Woolen Stuffs of *Nugent* are
 vended at *Paris*, and exported to other Countries.

Page 552. 10. ORLEANOIS (*Orleans*) one Branch of Commerce, Wool, a consider-
 able Manufacture of Stockings. (*Blois* and *Beajeu*) a Manufacture of
 Serges and Stuffs. (*At Romartin*) more considerable.

LYONS, the Merchants send to *Spain* Cloth, import from thence Wool ;
 to *Italy*, Cloth ; to *Switzerland*, coarse Cloth ; to the great Towns of *Ger-*
 Page 558, many, the same. (*Auvergne*) some Woolen Manufactures, viz. Serges and
 559. other slight Stuffs. (*Marche*) their Trade consists chiefly in Cattle, and in
 the Woolen Manufacture of *Aubusson*, (which is considerable on that Ac-
 count) as also of *Telletin*.

Page 560. 12. BERRY (36 Leagues in Length, 28 broad) good Pastures for Sheep,
 that are valued for the *Fineness* of their Wool. The Trade, chiefly Cattle,
 Sheep ; the latter also furnish their Manufactories with Wool ; of which,
 561, Cloths, Serges, Stockings, &c. (*Touraine*) Cloth once a principal Manufac-
 ture ; now scarce followed any where, but at *Amboise*, and there only slight
 562, *French* Stuffs are made. (*Anjou*) Cattle and Sheep their chief Riches ;
 Manufacture, slight Woolen Stuffs.

847. 13. SPAIN, Wool in general *admirably fine*, and in *great abundance*. Their
 Settlements in *America* furnish them with prodigious Quantities of — Wool,
 &c.

14. PORTUGAL (*Extremine Duero*) great Flocks of Sheep, their Wool and Flesh in good Esteem. (*Alenteijo*, about 36 Leagues long, near as many broad) Mutton and Beef good.

15. AFRICA, (*Ethiopia*, viz. *Abyssinia*) Sheep in great Plenty. (*Caf-* Vol. III. *fraria*, the Country of the *Hottentots*) Sheep. (*Congo*) most of the Cattle page 3, found in *Caffraria*, Sheep, &c. (*Morocco*) Duty on Wool exported, a 42, hundred Pounds, six ounces of Silver. Sheep, &c. great Plenty. *Euro-* 80, *peans* bring them Woolen Cloths, Stuffs, &c. taking in Return — Wool, &c. (*Algiers*) Merchandizes imported, Woolen Cloths, &c.; in Return for which, *Europeans* receive — fine Wool, &c. (*Tunis* and *Tri-* 100, *poli*,) In *Tripoli*, exceeding fine Wool. The *Europeans* trade with *Tunis* and *Tripoli* for Wool, &c.

16. AMERICA. (*Mexico*, the Province of *Guaxaca*) great Numbers of Sheep. *European* Sheep so multiplied there, 100 Years ago, that it was an ordinary thing for a *Spanish* *Grasier* to have 10 or 20,000 *l.* Sheep. (*Calif-* 138, *ornia*) Sheep, some white, others black, larger than ours, affording more 185, 231, Wool, very good, and easy to be wrought up. (*Peru*) Sheep of the 285, Country, the lesser Sort, their Wool long, and much esteemed for Cloath- 287, ing. The first *European* Sheep there valued at 40 or 50 Crowns a Head. So much increased in ten Years, that a Sheep might be had for a trifle. Reason of the Increase, no Wolves, &c. The Numbers of Sheep and Quantity of Wool great. (*Chili*,) The Men wear a Garment made of the Wool of their Country Sheep of the *Peruvian* kind; the Women likewise. (*La Plata*) scarce a Canton, which has less than 30 or 40,000 *European* 399, Sheep; one of which is more valued, on account of its Wool, than three, Horses, which are indeed not esteemed at above 1 *s.* 6 *d.* each. (*Brazill*,) 425, Besides Sheep of the *Peruvian* Kind, *Europeans* now in vast Numbers. 432, (*Virginia*,) All manner of *European* Cattle, Oxen, Sheep, &c. The Product chiefly Stock and Grain — Wool, &c. A Woolen Manufac- 587, ture. (*New-York*, *New Jersey*, *Pensylvania*) produce, chiefly Provisions exchanged with *British* and other foreign Colonies for Rum — Wool, 588, &c. The Northern Colonies have set up a great many Manufactories. They make Woolen Cloth, Hats, &c. (*Carolina*) Animals the same as 592, in *Virginia*. — Of all that are in that Country, none are a less Charge than 599, Sheep; and there is a particular Sort, whose Wool is not inferior to the finest *Spanish* Wool. (*Jamaica*) Animals, Oxen, Sheep, &c. (*Bermu-* 614, *da*) Beef and Mutton plentiful. 633,

Page 652,

17. *Addenda* :—Scarce any thing in other Countries, which is not to be found in *China*.

682.

18. Abundance of Oxen and Sheep in *Walachia* and *Moldavia*. In short, *Germany* abounds with Corn, Cattle, Sheep, and Wool.

P. S. *The Extracts contained in this and the last foregoing Chapter, may serve to convey another Idea than what the Atlas Maritimus & Commercialis gives; they are also some Support to the Testimony of the British Merchant; but a more minute, authentic and satisfactory Account of the French Woolen Manufactures particularly, is yet to be learned from the Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce; an Extract of which will be found nearer the Close of this Work. In the mean time, it is observable, that WOOL is no more peculiar to Great-Britain and Ireland than is Corn, or Horses, or horned Cattle. At the most, it can only be said, that in some Parts of these Islands, as a Consequence of having Sheep in vast numbers, there is also Abundance of Wool.*

But we see that these are not rare in almost any Part of the Globe, and that in many large Kingdoms they abound greatly, if not equally so, as in Great-Britain and Ireland.

C H A P. CXXII.

The Trade and Navigation of Great Britain considered; shewing that the surest Way for a Nation to increase in Riches, is to prevent the Importation of such Commodities as may be raised at Home: That this Kingdom is capable of raising within itself, and its Colonies, Materials for employing all our Poor in those Manufactures which we import from such of our Neighbours who refuse the Admission of ours; with some Account of the Commodities each Country we trade with takes from us, and what we take from them; with Observations on the Balance.

By Joshua Gee. *

I. **T**HE *English* Nation remained much in the same State, respecting Trade and Navigation, from the Time of *William* the Conqueror to the Accession of *Queen Elizabeth* to the Crown of *England*; which then consisted chiefly in transporting Tin, Lead, Wool, some Leather, Iron, and other Productions sufficient to purchase what foreign Commodities † they wanted.

2. King *Edward* III. was the first Prince from the Conquest to his Page 2: Time, that we find took any Notice of Trade; for in the Parliament held at *Westminster* in 1338, the Transportation of Wool out of the Kingdom was prohibited; and for the Encouragement of foreign Cloth-workers, and other Manufacturers, to come and settle here, a great many Privileges were granted. From his Reign to *Queen Elizabeth*, we do not find any one Prince that had much Regard for Trade. In *Queen Elizabeth's* Page 3, Time many and great Advantages were added to it. King *James* I. con- Page 4. cerned himself not much with Trade. King *Charles* I. had too many other things upon his Hands. *Cromwell* and the Rump had some excellent Page 5.

* This Author was one of the Gentlemen concerned in writing *the British Merchant*. The Copy, from which I transcribe, is the fourth Edition, printed 1738. From Circumstances ^a, it ^a §. 7. Note appears to have been first printed about the Year 1728.

† In this Paragraph particularly, he hath consulted Brevity, not Truth. (See Chap. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26.) which shew the *English* Trade in *Woolen Manufacture*, to have arrived to a very considerable Pitch, before the Reign of *Queen Elizabeth*.

Page 6,

Notions thereof. King *Charles II.* was too indolent in that respect. King *James II.*, though his natural Turn of Mind lay that way, was too intent, during his short Reign, to establish Popery. Upon King *William's* coming to the Crown, early Application was made to him for several Amendments in Trade, and for establishing a great many useful Manufactures here, viz. *Lutestrings, Alamodes, Glafs, Linen.* In his Time also Manufactures of *Copper* and *Brass* were set on Foot, which now in a great measure supply the Nation. The making of *Sail-Cloth* was also begun, and carried to great Perfection; also *Sword-Blades, Scissars,* and *Toys,* made of *Steel,* which we used to have from *France,* but in which we now excel all other Nations. The setting up of *Salt Works* hath proved very beneficial here, and saves a great deal of Treasure yearly: there are besides many other things * which I forbear to enumerate.

Page 12.

3. At present, *Turkey* takes from us chiefly broad Cloths, &c.; and the *English* Merchants frequently buy up *French* and *Lisbon* Sugars, and transport thither, as well as Bullion from *Cadiz,* so that the Balance of that Trade is plainly against us. Yet is this very useful, as taking off our Goods fully manufactured, and in Return, sending us raw Materials for Manufacture and Re-exportation.

Page 13.

Page 14.

4. *Italy* takes broad Cloth, &c. *England* takes from them, raw, thrown, and wrought Silks. Formerly we received a considerable Balance; but the *French* now supplying them with Woolen Manufactures, Fish, &c.; and as we import great Quantities of thrown and raw Silk from thence, to carry on our Manufactures, it is thought the Balance now against us is considerable.

Page 15.

Page 16.

5. *Spain* takes from us broad Cloth, &c. Stuffs, &c. *England* from them Wine, Fruits, &c. And though we are obliged to them for their Custom for our Manufactures, they are no less obliged to us for taking off their Products. Formerly we received a very great Balance from them in Bullion; but since the House of *Bourbon* has filled the *Spanish* Throne, and introduced *French* Stuffs and Fashions, it is presumed the Balance is but very small in our Favour.

6. *Portugal* takes from us broad Cloths, Druggets, &c. *England* from them Wine in vast Quantities, Oyl, &c. and though we may allow a

* *New Acquisitions.* And as all these contribute to the Employment and Maintenance of the People, and to enrich the Merchants, &c. so they are very comfortable Reflexions, and might serve to allay that Spirit of Murmuring and Discontent, which is too frequent on the Head of Trade and Manufacture.

considerable

considerable Balance to be brought us, yet is it not so great as some imagine.

7. *France* takes from *England*, Tobacco, Lead, &c. some *Flannels*. Page 18.

England from *France*, Wine, Cambricks and Lawns; Brocades, Velvets, &c. run in upon us, Linens in like manner and Brandies, for which the Smugglers carry nothing but Gold, Silver, and Wool. *France*, above all other Nations, is the worst for *England* to trade with. It produces most Things necessary for Life, and wants little either for Luxury or Convenience, some few Materials excepted, to help to carry on their Manufactures; of which the chief are, Wool, and some Dying Stuffs. But they have laid down some of their best Lands for Pasturage, to improve the Growth of their Wool. Great Part of their Woolen Manufacture is indeed carried on with *Spanish* and *Irish* Wool; what they import from *Ireland* might be prevented, but instead of that, there is a Duty of 19d *. Earthing per Stone, laid upon all that comes to *England*. So that the *French* in *Ireland* buy theirs near 20 per Cent. cheaper. Page 19.

8. *Flanders* takes from us Serges, a few Flannels, a very few Stuffs, Sugar, &c. *England* takes from them Lace, Cambricks, Lawns, &c. to a very great Value. It is difficult to judge, as the Trade goes chiefly through the Hands of the *Dutch*, what Balance we pay them; but it is undoubtedly very considerable, we being their best Customers; and yet they prohibit our Woolen Cloths, which if freely admitted, it is thought would not amount to one fifth of what we take from them. Page 20.

9. *Germany* takes from *England* broad Cloth, Druggets, &c. *England* takes from them prodigious Quantities of Linen, &c. According to the Custom-House Accounts, the Balance was thought to be in our Favour, when we were supplied by *France* with Linens; but since the high Duty upon *French* Linens, the Emperor and other Princes of *Germany* have gained that Manufacture, which has greatly enriched them. And yet, notwithstanding the Advantage they have by importing their Linens upon us, some of them have prohibited several of our Woolen Manufactures, and others have prohibited all; which gives them a very great Balance upon us. Page 22.

10. *Norway* and *Denmark* takes from *England*, Guineas, Crown Pieces,

* This Duty was taken off some Time in the Year 1730 or 1731, (See Chap. 126. §. 12.)

Bullion, a little Tobacco, and a few coarse Woolens. *England* takes from *Norway*, Timber, Iron. We pay them a very great Balance.

Page 14.

11. *Sweden* takes from *England*, our Gold, Silver, and but a small Quantity of the Manufactures and Production of *England*; which takes from *Sweden* near two Thirds of the Iron wrought up, or consumed in the Kingdom, Copper, Planks, &c. The Balance from us before the late War with *Denmark*, amounted to between 2 and 300,000 *l.* yearly, besides the Freight of their own Product.

Page 25.

12. *Russia* takes from us some coarse Cloths, long Ells, worsted Stuffs, Tin, &c. *England* takes from *Russia*, besides many other Things, Hemp, and having no other Market to go to, where great Quantities may be had, they are paid their own Prices for what we take of them.

Page 26.

13. *Holland* takes from *England*, Woolen Manufactures, and something of almost every Thing the Kingdom produces. *England* takes from *Holland*, fine Hollands, &c. &c. But according to the Custom-House Accounts, we Over-balance them thrice as much as we do *Portugal* or *Spain*. But when the great Number of Smuggling Ships are considered, it is apt to furnish the thinking Part of Mankind with other Notions.

Page 27.

Page 28.

14. *Ireland* takes from *England*, broad Cloth, Silks, Ribbons, Gold and Silver Lace, almost every Thing they use*, but coarse Linens, coarse Woolens, and Eatables. *England* takes from *Ireland*, Woolen and Linen Yarn, Wool in great Quantities, some Tallow——But that which makes *Ireland* so very profitable to *England*, is, that it is thought near one Half of the Rents of the whole, belong to *English* Noblemen and Gentlemen that dwell here. They have an extraordinary Trade for their Hides, Tallow, Beef, Butter, &c. to *Holland*, *Flanders*, *France*, *Portugal* and *Spain*.

Page 29.

15. Our Sugar Plantations take from *England*, all Sorts of Clothing, Household Goods, &c. They send us Sugar, Ginger, &c. all the Bullion and Gold they can meet with, and doubtless would produce Cinnamon and other Spices, &c. if they were planted, also Coffee.

Page 30.

b Ch. 120.

§. 28. Note.

16. The Tobacco Plantations take from *England*, their Clothing^b, Household Goods, Utensils of all Kinds. *England* takes from them, Tobacco for Use and Re-exportation.

Page 31.

17. *Carolina* lyes in a happy Climate, producing the best Rice in the

* But *Quere*, if the Case is not much altered of late Years, since the *Dublin Society* has given annual Premiums to encourage the Industry and Invention of the People there, to Manufacture and Productions of all Kinds?

World; no Country would afford better Silk. 'Tis said, that Bohea and Green Tea have been raised there, that it is capable of furnishing good Olive Oyl, Cochineal, Indigo, Iron, Hemp, Flax.

18. *Pensylvania*, within 40 Years, has made wonderful Improvements; Page 34. which has very much enlarged their Demands upon us for broad Cloths, Druggets, Serges, Stuffs, and Manufactures of all Sorts. They supply the Sugar Plantations with Pipe-Staves, Lumber, &c.—But all that not sufficing for their Clothing, they are forced to make something by their own Labour and Industry, to answer that End.

19. *New Jersey, New York, New England*, like *Pensylvania*, buy their Clothing from us, what they can afford*; for the rest, they are their own Manufacturers. Page 35, 36.

20. Our Trade to *Africa* is very profitable; it carries no Money out, brings in Bullion, Gold-Dust, &c. and supplies the Plantations with Negroes.

21. We send great Quantities of Bullion to the *East-Indies*, as well as some Manufactures, which purchase there at very low Prices, the Products and Manufactures of *India* and *China*, which are brought home in our own Navigation; out of which we supply ourselves with Callicoes and other Cotton Cloths, sufficient for our own Consumption, as also Coffee, Tea, and raw Silk; and, it is supposed, sell † to Foreigners as many of the said Commodities, or more than pay for all the Bullion shipped out.

* Or rather, what they want.

† *Re-export*, (I presume, Mr. Gee should have said,) and sell to Foreigners, Ireland, and the British Plantations. 'December 22. 1733, Mr. Alderman French presented to the House of Commons [in Ireland] Heads of a Bill, for the more effectual Employment of the Poor, by prohibiting the Use and Wear of all wrought Silks, Bengals, and Stuffs mixed with Silks, Cotton, or Herbs of the Manufacture of *Persia* or *China*, or the *East-Indies*, and of all painted Callicoes, except those painted in *Ireland* or *Great-Britain*; and the said Heads were agreed to.—But as passing such a Bill would have been prejudicial to the *East-India* Company in *England*, a Stop was put to it.' Quer. *If this was well judged, even for the Woolen Manufacture of England, and particularly if it is any Way consistent with good Sense and Equity (in regard to the WOOL GROWER) to prohibit absolutely the Exportation of Wool from Great-Britain, and from Ireland, to foreign Parts; and at the same Time, to permit the Importation of foreign Manufactures (thought fit to be prohibited in Great-Britain) so much as to Ireland and the Plantations?*

C H A P. CXXIII.

Reasons why the Demands for our Woolen Manufactures do not increase.

By Joshua Gee.

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§. 6.

1. **I**T is supposed that *Egypt*, the *Tyrians*, and Coasts of *Syria*, were the first that entred upon the Linen and Woolen Manufactures; and as Wars and Persecutions arose, some of them shifted from Place to Place, and at last carried those Manufactures among the *Flemings*, who raised Flax and Hemp of their own, and have carried the Linen to the highest Perfection of any Place in *Europe*; and also made various and great Improvements in the Woolen. These two Manufactures drew Multitudes of People to settle in the 17 Provinces; and *England* having the greatest Quantity of the best Sort of Wool, they purchased that from us, and great Quantities were exported.

2. *Edw. III.* saw the Advantage of the Woolen Manufacture, and made a fair Push for having it removed hither, and took proper Measures for establishing it here, as is before^c mentioned; but for Want of the like Care in his Successors, it did not take deep Root 'till the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*^d. In her Time, that Manufactory was so effectually established, that a mighty Progress was made therein, and it increased so considerably, that they gained the Reputation of being the best in *Europe*; and a Market was opened for them, not only into *Spain*, *France*, *Italy* and *Germany*, but into *Russia*, the *Baltick* &c. and by way of *Archangel* into *Persia*, and also a Trade was settled into *Turkey*^f.

3. *England* carried on her Trade in the Woolen Manufacture, a considerable Time, and the rest of *Europe* carried on the Linen and other Manufactures, and exchanged them with us for our Woolens^g.—But the *French* endeavouring to enlarge the Trade and Manufactures of that Kingdom, found out several Ways to prevent the Importation of our Woolens into *France*, by causing them to be thrown into Water, and then to be shrunk and new dressed, before they were admitted to be sold; those vexatious Ways, together with the high Duties imposed upon them, soon tired out the *English* Merchant, and amounted to a Prohibition.

4. Those Proceedings gave Spirit to *Sweden* and several *German* Princes, to follow the Example of *France*; they were also willing to try whether they could not lay the *English* Woolen Manufactures under such Prohibitions and Difficulties, as to exclude the wearing them in their respective Dominions. How far they succeeded *, is too well known.

5. We may judge what Part *France* has gained from us, by examining Page 100. into the mighty Demand there was for our Woolen Goods, when *France* was visited with the Plague, and were stopp'd from supplying foreign Markets: The Demand for our Woolen Goods increased to so great a Degree, that the like has not happened for many Years †; but as soon as that Country was freed from the Plague, they again supplied those Markets as formerly, and the Demand for ours gradually sunk.

6. Now as we have greatly increased in our Buildings and Inhabitants within these forty Years, and have so many Competitors in the Woolen Manufactures; and *France*, &c. has gained so great a Part from us; and so many Places endeavour to keep out our Woolen Manufactures, and still continue to import their Hemp, Flax, Pot-ash, Iron, Timber, &c. upon us, which draws a very great Treasure annually out of this Kingdom; some Methods must be found out for establishing other Manufactures, for employing our Poor; otherwise our present Riches will decrease, our Lands sink in Value, and our Manufacturers be forced to go into other Countries to find Employment; which would be a Misfortune severely felt. But this may be prevented; for if we will examine into the Conveniencies we have for carrying on the greatest and most profitable Manufacturies, we shall find that by a right Regulation of the Improvements that may be made, especially in our Colonies, we may equal, if not exceed, any Nation in *Europe*, in raising Materials for Silk, and Linen Manufacture; either of which thought to be as considerable in the World as the Woolen, and no Way inferior to it in Point of Profit. The making and supplying ourselves with Pig and Bar Iron from the Colonies, is also very material, since Foreigners draw between two and three hundred thousand Pounds per Ann. from us for that Commodity, and all, to a Trifle, in ready Money. Page 101

* But could they possibly have succeeded in any Degree; or would it have been Policy to have attempted it, had it been true, (what modern *English* Writers say) 'That our WOOL for Clothing, is to all the World as much a Necessary of Life, as any Thing else?'

† May we not expect, according to this Account, that the Price of Wool in *England*, was hereby considerably advanced? This has been said; but we shall prove the contrary.

Page 239.

7. Sometimes indeed there is a mighty Enquiry into Trade, and Persons are called upon to give their Thoughts, but commonly those Enquiries die. 'Tis true indeed, that a considerable Number of Merchants are always chose into the House; but then it has been observed, that by the mutual Opposition of those who are engaged in different Interests, they rather puzzle than give Light to the Argument in Debate; and I must confess, that I have usually found Gentlemen more ready to entertain right Notions of Commerce, as it respects the Advantage or disadvantage of the Publick, than most Men in Trade; few of whom, though otherwise knowing and well skilled in their own Way, give themselves Trouble to look further than what concerns their own particular Interest.

C H A P. CXXIV.

Tracts concerning the present State of Ireland, wrote in England, but first printed at Dublin, 1729.

Page 25.

1. **I**T is a received Opinion, that it were better for *England*, if *Ireland* were no more; but if we consider (apart from Prejudices and particular Interests) how greatly we are already Gainers by the Trade and Industry of that Country, poor as it is, we shall begin to think (however the Nation is exploded) that the Wealth and Prosperity of *Ireland* is not incompatible with that of *England*, but highly conducing to its Riches, Grandeur, and Power.

2. It is more than probable, that <i>Ireland</i> sends us, at	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
present, for Coals <i>per Ann.</i>	—	—	—
For Corn	—	—	—
For broad Cloths, <i>East India</i> Goods and Mercers Wares,			
Hops, Toys, &c.	—	—	—
	100,000	0	0
	80,000	0	0
	250,000	0	0

We have all their Wool raw and unmanufactured; which, as appears by the Register thereof at the Custom-House, for the Year ending at *Midsummer* 1723, amounts to, Yarn included, 271,291 Stones; which, because of the Monopoly thereof, we buy at 6 *s.* *per* Stone; in all 81,282 *l.* first Cost.

This

This by the Art and Labour of *English* Men, is converted into Cloths, &c.

and by a reasonable Computation, is a Means of saving or	l.	s.	d.
gaining annually, over and above the first Cost	—	750,000	0 0
By Expence of <i>Irish</i> Outliers among us	—	600,000	0 0
So that we are Gainers by our Dealings with that Country,	l.	s.	d.
<i>per Ann.</i>	—	1,781,000	0 0

3. It is true, that in Parliaments, every Member may be supposed to labour with a more particular Affiduity, the Advantage and Emolument of Page 28. that Corporation which sent him; but every other Member does the same, and this Distraction of Affairs (as I may call it) brings the Matter quicker to an Issue, and by a Majority of Voices, determines which is the common Good. But however, it sometimes happens, that the Designs of particular Societies are so gilt and varnished over with specious Pretences and Insinuations, that it is almost impossible to distinguish the real from the fictitious Good, and they are led into Mistakes. Instances of this might be given in many Particulars, but I shall only mention one, which has respect to our Trade with *Ireland*, and which occasioned no small Loss to us. I mean that which forbade the Importation of *Irish* Beef.

4. Before the Restoration, we were in the sole Possession of the Beef Trade, which being a bulky Commodity, afforded no small Occupation to Ships and Sailors, and no inconsiderable Profit to the Nation in general, on the Articles of Trade and Navigation. But by our suffering ourselves to be led by the Insinuations of a particular Society, we have lost those Benefits.

5. I should be glad to know with *what Face* a Petition from the *Shepherds of England* * to prohibit the Importation of Wool, would at this Day be received in our Parliament; *it is certain it would greatly raise the Price of that produced here* †; and the same Arguments ‡ might be framed for it, that

* *Shepherds of England, &c.* — As if this was a Matter that concerned those only that were literally Shepherds, the *poor Hirelings* retained to follow the Flocks, and not the *Land-owners*, who subsist by their Rents, and the *Flock-Masters*, whose Property the Sheep are, and who, besides supporting their own Families, pay those Rents with the Produce thereof.

† However, besides some other Things that are well enough to be approved of in this Tract, I commend the Ingenuity of the Writer, in acknowledging, *that the Importation of Irish Wool and Yarn to England, does contribute to sink the Price of English Wool there.*

‡ And I further agree with him, that the *same Arguments* which shall be esteemed good, for prohibiting *Irish Cattle*, hold equally for prohibiting *Irish Wool* and Yarn; yet in my Opinion ought *none* of them to be prohibited; the same admitting of another Regulation, as I think, more agreeable to *Equity* and *good Policy*.

were

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were made Use of to procure the Prohibition of Beef ; but I am sure a very indifferent Politician might however see, that the Gain of that particular Society, could in no Measure compensate the Injury it would do to our Woolen Trade, and to the Nation in general.

6. The nearer Commodities are bought to the Place of their Growth, the more advantageous they are to the Country importing ; because Ships, Freight, Sailors Wages, &c. being but a Commutation within themselves, are no Drain to the Nation. So likewise, the farther off we can sell our own Commodities, the more advantageous is it to the Nation, the Expence and Hazard of the Navigation adding considerably to their Price at such Markets.

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7. Premiums on the Exportation of Goods, enable the Merchant to sell them so much cheaper at foreign Markets, than he could otherwise afford them, and are of singular Use in Cases where we are undersold by others ; for which Reason it is a Nation's Profit to give Premiums, where the Sale of their Manufactures would otherwise be lessened.

C • H A P. CXXV.

The English Woolen Manufacturers Remarks on the present declining State of their Trade for Exportation, and the Necessity there is of preventing the Irish Wool being run ; humbly offered to the Consideration of both Houses of Parliament, 1730.

Page 3.

1. **T**R A D E in general does now feel the Effects of a long and gradual Decay * in our Woolen Trade for Exportation, as the Woolen Manufactures abroad have took Place ; which is evidently owing to their getting the *Irish Wool*, and not only working it up, but with it also great

* *A long and gradual Decay in our Woolen Trade for Exportation.* * The Exports of the English Woolen Manufactures, at a Medium of the last four Years, exceeded their Exportations, 16 or 18 Years ago, about 200,000 l. per Ann.

An Essay on Trade and Improvement of Ireland (pag. 77.) By Arthur Dobbs, Esq; Dublin, printed 1729.

Quantities

Quantities of their own Wool (intermixing it with the *Irish*) into *English* ^{*English-like Goods.*} *like*† Goods, much cheaper than *England* can.

2. 'Tis fully demonstrated by the great Charge and Risk * *England's* Ri- Page 5:
vals run in getting the *Irish Wool*, that as they do not need it for Quantity,
having Wool of their own, 'tis for Quality, without which they cannot
work up their own, into such Goods that they rival *England* in.

3. At present, the Interest of *England* and *Ireland*, as to their *Wool*, does Page 6.
very much differ; and it is *England's* absolute Interest, that none of her own
nor *Irish Wool*, be run, but that all more than *Ireland's* own Home Consump-
tion does call for, be manufactured in *England* for Exportation. But 'tis Page 7:
Ireland's present Interest, that all her *Wool*, more than she manufactures
herself (not all for Home Consumption) be run, rather than exported in
Wool, to *England*.

4. All *Irish Wool* exported to *England*, does pay a Duty in *Ireland* of up-
wards of one Penny per Pound; and likewise all *Irish Woolen Yarn* imported,
pays a Duty of above a Penny per Pound in *England*, besides what it pays,
as *Wool*, in *Ireland*.

5. 'Tis to be feared no Law will put a Stop to running *Wool* in *Ireland*,
'till the *Irish* see it their Interest to become subservient with their *Wool* to
the Interest of the *English Woolen Trade* for Exportation.

6. Taking off the said Duty on the *Irish Wool*, will not introduce it into
England cheaper ^m than now; the Price in *Ireland* advancing as the Duty ^m See Chap.
is taken off; but it would be a very great Means to induce the *Irish Traders* ^{124. §. 5.}
to think it their Interest to put in Force such Laws, as our Parliament may
find needful to prevent its being run, as *England* will be 20 per Cent. a better
Market than now, and their Gains will not be *England's* Loss.

7. Money earned by the *English Spinners*, is now the dearest earnt of any Page 8.
in the whole Manufacturing. Every Pack run, robs *England's* Poor of ma-
nufacturing three. Taking off the Duty on *Irish Woolen Yarn* imported;
then by encouraging the *Irish* Poor in Spinning a Part of the *Wool* now
run, into white Yarn for *England*, as now for *England's* Rivals, would be

† *English-like Goods*, an Expression, we shall see, borrowed from the *French*, now made Use of *How to be*
for the first Time, but repeated hereafter by other *English* Writers, in order to convey a very dif- *understood.*
ferent Meaning from that in which it is used by the *French*.

* This is mis-stating the Case. The Subjects of *England* and *Ireland* chiefly run those Risks,
to convey it to Foreigners; and their Motive is evidently, the Prospect of Gain attending that
illicit Practice; which Gain in a great Measure arises from the PRICE OF WOOL, both in *Ire-*
land and *England*, BEING DEPRESS'D CONSIDERABLY BELOW ITS NATURAL VALUE.

much more for the Advantage of *England's* Manufacturers, and instead of lessening either the *Price* of *Wool*, or of the Labour of our *English* Poor, be an absolute Means, by the great Increase of Trade, fully to employ them, though so numerous, much more to their own and Kingdom's Advantage, than bare Spinning can.

Page 9.

8. More than that, taking off the Duty on the said *Wool* and *Yarn*, and turning the *Irish* low Labour in *England's* Favour, would not only make them that are now employed for *England's* Rivals, see it their Interest that such a Law be executed, but even the whole Kingdom (the clandestine Traders excepted) would assist therein, and consult the Interest of *England* as to her Woolen Manufactory for Exportation; which at once would enable *England*, not only to continue a living Price to her Poor, but also fully to employ them, and that to more Advantage than now she can, and yet to sell so cheap, that she would be able to cope with the *whole World* in *Woolen* Goods.

Page 10.

9. *N. B.* As dying and fitting white Woolen Goods for Exportation, does, on an Average, cost 50 * *per Cent.* preventing such Goods being exported white (that is not worn so) would greatly add to the Labour of the *English* Poor, and Trade in general †.

C H A P. CXXVI.

Some Thoughts on the Woolen Manufacture of England, in a Letter from a Clothier to a Member of Parliament, 1731.

Page 3.

1. **Y**OU are too clear-sighted to approve of their Policy, who are for creating an imaginary Distinction between the Interest of *England*, and that of *Ireland*: For you readily perceive, that Men who look on

* This seems to be a very extravagant Way of reckoning; but be that as it will, it would add still more to the *English* Trade, if Foreigners could be obliged to buy the Trimming, viz. Buttons, Threa', Silk, &c. from *England*, as well as the Clo.h; and the Argument which shall be good, for absolutely prohibiting such Goods being exported white, will be equally good, for not suffering them to be exported without the necessary Quantity of proper Trimming.

† *An Act for further encouraging the Manufacture of British Sail Cloth.* 4 Geo. II. c. 27.

This Act recites, 'that many of his Majesty's Subjects were employed in making Sail Cloth; that this Manufacture by proper Encouragement might be greatly improved and increased, therefore permits undressed Flax to be imported without Duty on Entry, &c. takes off the Drawback before allowed on Re-exportation of foreign Sail Cloth, and allows a Bounty of one Penny per Ell on *British* Sail Cloth exported.'

Things

Things in this wrong Light, frequently form Opinions that prove hurtful to the Interest of *England*.

2. The Wars of *Ireland*, after the Revolution, ending in the peaceable Settlement of that Country, in the Year 1691, People betook themselves to some Industry. Thus they naturally fell into Breeding of Cattle and Sheep; and they again manufactured Wool, as they had done in former Reigns. This bred such a Jealousy in us, that in *June* 1698, Addresses were presented to the King by both Houses of Parliament; beseeching his Majesty to 'take effectual Measures to prevent the Growth of the Woolen Manufactures of *Ireland* *.

3. Hereupon the Commons of *Ireland*, fully inclined to satisfy us in that Matter, resolved to regulate their Woolen Trade after what Manner might be most agreeable to *England*. To this End, they had under Consideration Heads of a Bill to limit the Number of Sheep to be kept by any Person in that Country. *But that was not what We sought after: It was not OUR BUSINESS to lessen the Quantity of + Wool in Ireland; but to prevent the manufacturing it there for foreign Markets.* Therefore the Lords Justices and Council, pursuant to Instructions from *England*, framed Heads of a Bill, whereby four Shillings on the Value of twenty Shillings, of old Draperies, and two Shillings on the like Value of, all new Draperies, (except Freezes) was imposed as a new Duty on all those Manufactures of *Wool*, to be exported between the 25th of *March* 1699, and the 25th of *March* 1702. And although the Manufacturers of *Ireland* petitioned the Parliament against this Bill, yet it was readily passed into a Law; so willing were the People of *Ireland* to remove all our Apprehensions of their rivalling us in this our darling Manufacture.

4. And it is certain, this Duty (which was calculated to divert the Manufacturers by Degrees, from the Woolen to the Linen and Hempen Manufactures) would have effectually prevented the People of *Ireland* from frequenting the Markets we supplied with Woolen Manufactures. Or if on Pag 6.

* See Chap. 85.

+ This is a terrible Circumstance upon the *English Wool Grower*; by which I apprehend the *Irish Act* has stood, contrary to the Opinion of Sir *Will. Temple*, who thought it could not; and which Act is contrary to the Sentiments of many Writers; for many there are, who have mentioned that Act, only for the Sake of condemning it; nay, (which is much more to be remarked) out of a vast Number of Tracts on these Subjects, not a single Sentence has occurred in Favour thereof, unless this, or the like may be accounted one, viz. 'that was not what we sought after; it was not OUR BUSINESS, &c.'

Chap. 85.
§. 7.

Trial, it had proved insufficient, other Methods might have been pursued to that End. But we did not wait the Success of this Law. Even the Concurrence of the People of *Ireland* with the Method proposed on the Part of *England*, seems to have heightened our Jealousy, by making us imagine the Manufactures of *Ireland* were arrived at a dangerous Pitch of Improvement; since they could be supposed capable of bearing such an extravagant Duty as was laid on them by their own Parliament: And therefore an Act was passed in *England*, in the Year 1699^a, prohibiting the Exportation of Woolen Manufactures from *Ireland* to any other Place but the few *Wool Ports* of *England* and *Wales*. But such Importations being left liable to Duties laid on Cloth, &c. by Acts antecedent to this I am now speaking of, that Part of the Woolen Trade which our Legislature seemed willing to allow to the People of *Ireland*, became impracticable.

5. By this Means, it's true, we subverted the Woolen Manufactures of *Ireland*; but it is apprehended we, at the same Time, raised more formidable Enemies to our Trade: For Numbers of Workmen being at once deprived of Employment, were drove out of *Ireland*, to seek their Bread in other Countries, (as the *Flemings* were formerly forced into *England*) and being encouraged (especially by *France*) to set up their Trades, we were soon deprived of several Markets for our *Woolen* Goods, to the very great Detriment of the general Commerce of *England*.

Page 7.

6. It is probable, these Mischiefs could not have been brought upon us, had not Means been found to carry great Quantities of *Wool* from *England* and *Ireland* to the foreign Factories. But no Prohibition could prevent the Material from following the Manufacturers, when sufficient Profit was allowed to compensate for the Risk of the Exporter. And it is certain, tho' no Part of *Europe* yields such large Quantities of *Wool*, proper for fine neat Drapery, as *England* and *Ireland*: Yet *Spain* has finer *Wool* than ours; and all Countries afford some Sort of *Wool*, which though much coarser, answers the Use of their common People, and when mixed with the *Wool* of these Kingdoms, serves for several Sorts of Manufactures fit for general Use in all Countries. So that we find by sad Experience, that we acted too precipitately, in destroying, instead of regulating the Woolen Trade of *Ireland*; and perhaps the best Remedy we can apply to the Mischief hereby brought upon ourselves, is to tread back the Steps wherein we have so long wandered.

I

7. I would

7. I would not have you from hence to imagine, that I think it proper to allow the Exportation of Woolen Manufactures from *Ireland* to any other Parts but *England*; for that is not my Purpose. On the contrary, the Advantages arising from the Woolen Trade, are what we ought to confine as much as possible to *England*. In order to which, it may be worth considering, whether by the Assistance of *Ireland* we might not recover those Branches of our Trade, out of which the *French* and other Nations have very near beat us, by the Cheapness of their Labour. And if, to effect this, it may appear necessary to shew some Favour to the Poor of *Ireland*, we ought not to grudge it them.

8. That you may have a more perfect View of the State of this Case, I must entreat you to cast your Eyes on the following Abstract, taken from the Custom-House Books of *Ireland* for five Years, immediately before the Revolution, and five Years after the War in *Ireland*, viz. from 1693 to 1697 inclusive. — It appears, that though the People of *Ireland*, before the Revolution, had made some Progress in the Woolen Manufacture, yet in the Year of their greatest Exports, viz. Ann. 1687, the Value of all their Manufactures (except Yarn that came to *England*) did not exceed 70,521 *l.* 14 *s.* and of that Sum, 56,485 *l.* 16 *s.* was in Freezes*, a Manufacture we never trouble our Heads with, and 2520 *l.* 18 *s.* in coarse *Irish* Stockings; both amounting to 59,006 *l.* 14 *s.* So that the old and new Draperies, which alone could interfere with our Trade, did not exceed 11,514 *l.* 10 *s.* And it is observable, that more Wool and Yarn was brought into *England*, that Year, than in any of the preceding Years. For Instance, the Quantity of Yarn, that Year, brought from *Ireland* to *England* at 18 Pound to the Stone, was 3668 Stones; of Wool, 256,592 Stones. From whence it is evident, that our Manufacture increased * in Proportion as the Trade of *Ireland* prospered.

9. From the Custom-House Accounts, for the five Years after the War in *Ireland*, it appears, that in the Year 1697, being the Year before we complained of their Manufactures, though they had been every Year increasing, yet they had not recovered above one third Part of the Woolen Trade which they had before the War, (viz. the total Value of Manufactures this Year

* This in itself is no Evidence of the Increase of the *English* Manufacture; for though more Wool and Yarn was imported from *Ireland* to *England*, than in some preceding Years, yet, as that would naturally reduce the Price of *English* Wool and Yarn, so it would only increase the Temptation in *England* to export Wool clandestinely.

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exported, was 23,614 *l.* 9 *s.* 6 *d.* namely, in Freezes and Stockings, 14,625 *l.* 12 *s.* In old and new Drapery, 8988 *l.* 17 *s.* 6 *d.* Yarn to *England*, 13,480 Stones; Wool 217678 Stones †.) Also, as before, so after the Revolution, the Manufactures exported from *Ireland* were mostly Freezes and coarse Stockings: And in Proportion as the People of *Ireland* improved in these Manufactures, so the Quantities of Wool ‡ and Yarn exported from thence to *England*, increased. And perhaps you will from these Observations conclude, that since we thought proper to grasp at all this Trade, and declare our Jealousy even of our Fellow Subjects of *Ireland* enjoying such a small Pittance of it, it had been more prudent to have proceeded by Methods proper to turn the Industry of the People of *Ireland*, by Degrees, from the Woolen to other Manufactures, than to have followed the Course we took with them.

10. It is true, that for some few Years after we had destroyed the Woolen Manufactures of *Ireland*, we seemed to engross all that Trade; but this Appearance of Benefit abated, as the foreign Factories, which were raised out of the Ruins of the *Irish*, acquired Strength, and Means were contrived to draw the Material after the Manufacturers. This is but too evidently our Case; however, to shew you how it stands with regard to *Ireland*, I give you some Abstracts of the Wool and Yarn, exported from thence for *England* in several Periods of Time.

And first, for the four Years after the Destruction of the *Irish* Manufactures, we find exported,

		(A)		
		Wool.	Yarn	Total
		Stone at	Stone at	Wool and
		18 lb.	18 lb.	Yarn.
Year ending at <i>Christmas.</i>	{ 1700	336,292	26,617	362,909
	{ 1701	302,812	23,390	326,202
	{ 1702	315,473	43,648	359,121
	{ 1703	360,862	36,873	397,735
Total for four Years.		1,315,439	130,528	1,445,967
Medium for each Year.		328,859 $\frac{1}{4}$	32,632	361,491 $\frac{1}{4}$

† Which was 9812 Stones of Yarn more, in 1697, than in 1687, and 38913 Stones of Wool less.

‡ The Connection here, is much like that of the *Goodwin Sands* and *Tenterden Steeple*. Our Author had been nearer the Truth, if he had said, that in Proportion as their Stock of Sheep increased in *Ireland*, so the Quantities of Wool and Yarn exported from thence to *England*, increased likewise. For thus in 1693, when they had but few Sheep, they imported, of Yarn, only 1897 $\frac{1}{2}$ Stones; of Wool, no more than 37888 Stones.

The next Abstract of the Exports of the Wool and Yarn is for four Years, taken at the Time of the Peace of *Utrecht*, viz. for the Years,

		(B)		
		Wool	Yarn	Total
		Stone at	Stone at	Wool and
		18 lb.	18 lb.	Yarn.
Year ending at <i>Lady-Day.</i>	1711	310,136	55,273	365,409
	1712	263,946	60,108	324,054
	1713	171,871	68,548	240,419
	1714	147,153	58,147	205,300
Total for four Years.		893,106	242,076	1,135,182
Medium for each Year.		223,276 $\frac{1}{4}$	60,519	283,795

		(C)		
		Wool	Yarn	Total
		Stone at	Stone at	Wool and
		18 lb.	18 lb.	Yarn.
Year ending at <i>Christmas.</i>	1726	51,371	87,261	138,632
	1727	58,182	72,047	130,229
	1728	49,784	80,428	130,212
	1729	38,667	91,854	130,521
Total for four Years.		198,004	331,590	529,594
Medium for each Year.		49,501	82,897 $\frac{1}{4}$	132,398 $\frac{1}{4}$

Thus it appears, that the Imports of Wool from *Ireland*, gradually decreased, from the Year 1703 to this Time; and 'tis worth observing, since it seems to point out the Cause of this Decrease, that on the Peace of *Utrecht*, the Exports of Wool from *Ireland* to *England*, fell short of what they were, during the War. Infomuch, that the Decrease from the Year 1711 to the Year 1714, was 162,983 Stones; which it is more than probable found its Way into *France*. And from these Abstracts it appears, that the Difference between the Total of Wool and Yarn, exported in the Year 1703, and 1729, is 267,214 Stones. So that upon the whole, we may conclude, that (which was before observed) as the Trade of *England* increased, and our Imports of Wool from *Ireland* grew greater, in Proportion as the People of *Ireland* improved in their coarse Manufactures; so we have diminished in our Imports of Wool from *Ireland*, and I am afraid in our Manufactures.

nufactures at home, and our *foreign Trade* † *also*, in a very strong Degree, ever since we destroyed the *Woolen Manufactures of Ireland*. So true is it, that *England*, can never fall into Measures for unreasonably cramping the Industry of the People of *Ireland*, without doing herself the greatest Prejudice.

11. The Duty, and extraordinary Charges, attending the legal Exportation of Wool from *Ireland*, amounted, in all, to about 2s. 4d. per Stone. And as the Price of Wool in the Farmers Hands in *Ireland*, by a Medium, from the Year 1703 to 1729, did not exceed 6s. 6d. per Stone, the saving of 2s. 4d. a Stone, Duty, amounted it, I may so call it, to a Premium of 36 per Cent. on clandestine Exportation, which with other Encouragements in the Countries to which they carried the Wool, was an Incitement to, and Compensation for the Risks run.

12. A due Consideration of this Matter prevailed with his Majesty to pass an Act, the last Session of Parliament in *Ireland*, whereby the Duty on Wool exported from that Kingdom to *England*, was taken off. Thus the clandestine Trader is deprived of Part of the Advantages he had over the Fair-Dealer. And when more Ports are opened in *Ireland* and *England* for exporting and importing Wool, it is evident, the Fair-Dealer will be put on a more equal Foot of Trade than formerly; and this will of Course prove a great Obstruction to the running of Wool from *Ireland*.

13. The next Article that requires our Attention, is the *Woolen Yarn* * imported from *Ireland*. This Produce of the Labour of the Poor of that Country, has always been found useful to us in carrying on our Manufactures. Yet, I know not by what Policy, it has been charged with Duties, both on the Exportation from *Ireland*, and Importation to *England*. But the Duty payable in *Ireland*, was released by the same Act which took off the Duty of Wool. However, Yarn imported from *Ireland* is still liable to a Duty here, which with the Charge of License †, and the Inconvenience of a few Ports for Exportation and Importation, amounts to

Page 16.

† This is a Matter which the Clothier was only afraid of, would not say certainly. And whoever looks into the Custom-House Accounts (such as have by any Means come to Light) of the *Woolen Exports from England*, in, and since the Year 1699, will either think him very ignorant on that Head, or strongly inclined to impose upon his Readers.

* Now we come to the main Point at which this Writer is driving, viz. to get the Duty taken off from *Irish Yarn*. All he has said before, is but a Parenthesis to this.

† 'We pay for a License (together with the Fees) to the Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, for every Thousand great Stones of Wool, exported to *England*, about Twenty-three Pounds.'

A Scheme to prevent the running of Irish Wools to France. By a Merchant, 1745. (p. 40.)

2s. 7d. a Stone, of 18 Pound; so that each Pack of Yarn weighing 240 Pound, is liable to a Charge of 1*l.* 15s. 6d. which amounts to about 18 *per Cent.* so that we ought not to hesitate at easing our Trade from this Burthen. Our own Interest calls upon us so to do; and the Policy of *France* (who finding now that the Duty on Wool exported from *Ireland* to *England* is taken off, she cannot get raw Wool as formerly, admits the the Importation of Yarn, which before she would not receive) makes it absolutely necessary we should give this Ease to the Importation of *Irish* Yarn, in order to prevent our Rivals from reaping the Benefit, which is to be made of the Wool and Labour of the Poor of *Ireland*.

14. But it is objected, that, as, by falling into these Courses, larger Quantities of Wool will be imported from *Ireland* than formerly; so the Price of that Commodity will be thereby lowered amongst us, and consequently the Value of our Land abated. And that by admitting *Irish* Yarn Duty free, we shall deprive the Poor of a great Means of their Subsistence. These, it must be confessed, are popular Objections, and apt to take with Men who consider this Matter superficially; but when they are duly weighed, they will be found out altogether groundless. Nay, it will appear, that encouraging our Manufactures in these Particulars, must, on the contrary, raise the Price of our Wool, and give fuller Employment to our Poor. Page 17,

15. To make this appear, it is necessary to observe *, that every Stone of Wool clandestinely exported from *Ireland*, enables our Rivals in the Woolen Trade, to work up two Stones more of their coarse hairy Wool, into a Manufacture, which supplants us in foreign Markets. Consequently, if there are 200,000 Stones of Wool clandestinely exported from *Ireland*, then it follows, that we lose by that pernicious Trade, not only the Benefit of manufacturing those 200,000 Stones of *Irish* Wool, and the consequential Profits thereon, but our Farmers, a Demand for 400,000 Stones more; and our Manufacturers are deprived of Employment in working up this Quantity of Wool also. And thus it is, that the clandestine Exportation of Wool has always lowered the Value † of *English* Wool, by destroying

* To believe, what is credible as Transubstantiation.

† If the Case was really so, as thus commonly represented, touching the Mixture of *English* or *Irish* Wools with foreign, methinks it might not be difficult (and which would carry more Conviction along with it) not only to instance in what Sort of Goods this Mixture is used, but also to explain after what manner it is performed.

stroying our Trade, robbing our Poor of Employment, and depriving our Farmers of a Demand for double the Quantity of Wool run, and transferring all these Benefits to other Countries. If therefore we can prevent this destructive Trade, and thereby bring the Wool of *Ireland*, suppose, 200,000 Stones more than formerly, into *England*; it is evident, that tho' this increases the Quantity of Wool in *England*, yet as it restores to us a more extended Trade, and a Demand for Manufactures to be made, not only by these 200,000 Stones, but also by 400,000 Stones more of our Wool, it must raise, instead of lowering the Price of Wool in *England*.

Page 18

16. As to the Objection, that the admitting of *Irish* Yarn, Duty-Free, will deprive the Poor of Employment, the contrary will appear, on a full Examination of this Question. Experience hath taught us, that our Neighbours daily encroach on this Branch of our Trade. But if we prevent their getting the Wool or Yarn of *Ireland*, we shall soon recover our Commerce*, to the general Advantage of *England*. And as thereby we shall have Occasion for many more Hands in every Branch of this Manufacture; so it is necessary we should employ the Poor of *Ireland* in Spinning their Wool, which was formerly carried out of that Kingdom into other Countries. And as the Article of *Spinning* is an *inconsiderable*, Part of the Woollen Manufacture, when compared with the other *valuable Trades* it employs, we ought in Prudence to discharge the Duties which were formerly laid on the Importation of Yarn from *Ireland*. For thus it appears, that the Importation of large Quantities of Wool and Yarn from *Ireland*, instead of lowering the Price of Wool, and depriving our Poor of Employment, will have quite contrary Effects.

* See Ch. 105
§. 7. Note.

Remark

17. P. S. This Author, *having given us* (§. 10.) *the Imports of Wool and Yarn to England from Ireland, in three several Periods, of four Years each, within the Space of Thirty, proceeds to make his own Use thereof; and whereon I desire also to offer some Remarks; having first subjoined the following further*

Or, if Persons, rather than shut their Eyes, to have this Notion crammed into them, would consult their Reason and their Senses, they would consider whether *English* and *Irish* Wool can be so foreign (in order to the producing of good Manufacture) what *Lapis Calaminaris* is to Copper, for the making of Brasses; whether it is, as Varnish to common Paint, or capable of being used in the Loom, as Ebony and fine Woods are, for Finiere, in Cabinet Work. In short, whether there is a natural Possibility of so mixing finer and coarser Wools, as that the coarse shall not take as much from the fine, as the fine can possibly add to the coarse; and whether in Manufacture, from mixed Wools, the Quality of the Cloth or Stuff will not most resemble the Quality of that Wool whereof it contains the greatest Quantity.

* This, upon the Supposition of what is by no means true, *viz.* that Wool and Yarn is not to be had elsewhere, (See Chap. 105. §. 12, 14.)

Custom-

Custom-House Accounts, *wherewith Mr. Dobbs has obliged the Public (in his Essay on the Trade and Improvement of Ireland, printed at Dublin, 1729.)*

18. *The Medium^m of the Importations of Wool and Yarn from Ireland to England, for 8 Years, to Lady-day, 1728, was, each Year, 227,049 Stones.* *Essay &c. By Arthur Dobbs, Esq; p.76.*

19. *The Value of the whole Exports from Ireland to England were,*

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
In the Year 1720	363,529	10	5	Page 53.
1721	440,964	17	6	
1722	544,002	7	8	
1723	554,431	1	4	
1724	476,632	14	0	

20. *The Value of the Produce of Sheep exported from Ireland.*

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	
In the Year 1720	89,401	10	0	Page 17.
1721	135,196	11	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1722	162,476	3	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1723	187,284	3	4	
1724	132,148	19	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	
1725	95,730	13	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	

21. Observe here, a great Exceeding^x in the whole Exports of Ireland to England, from 1721 to 1724 inclusive, and the like^y in the Value of the exported Produce of Sheep particularly, from Ireland; and that in both^z Instances, such Exceeding rose highest in the Year 1723. Now, the exported Produce of Sheep from Ireland (so far as that is legal, and, as such, can appear at the Custom-House) is chiefly WOOL and YARN sent to England. So that here is plainly an excessive Importation of Irish Wool and Yarn to England, from 1721 to 1724 inclusive; and that Excess was greatest in the Year 1723. And this (we shall see^a) is to be accounted for, from the Incident of the Plague at Marseilles, which first broke out in June 1720. ^a Ch. 174.

22. But whereas our Clothier, the Author of this Tract, has said^b that ^b C. 1. 126. ^c §. 10. from

from his Account ' it appears, that the Imports of Wool from Ireland, had ' gradually decreased from the Year 1703 to 1729; ' and thence infers (rightly enough) that what did not, as usual, come to England, ' probably found its Way into France: ' I observe that the gradual Decrease by him alledged, does not so plainly appear, from his Account, neither in Truth was it altogether, and constantly, the same as HE has represented it.

§. 10. (B)
(C)

Ch. 124.
§. 2.

See Ch. 126
§. 10,
(B) 1713,
1714.

Ch. 126.
§. 10. (C)

Ch. 126.
§. 10. (B)

Ch. 124.
§. 2.
Ch. 126.
§. 10. (C)

23. For 1st, there is in his Accounts^c, one particular Chasm, larger than the rest, viz, eleven Years together omitted; not (I apprehend) without Design; namely from 1715 to 1725 inclusive. And we have seen a Custom-House Account in this Case, for one of those Years (1722, i. e. one Year ending Midsummer 1723^d) by which it appears, that of Wool and Yarn, in that Year, was imported from Ireland to England, 271,291 Stones; which exceeds the Medium of the Years 1713, 1714^e, by 48,432 Stones. Moreover, Mr. Dobbs (§. 18.) having given the Medium of those Importations from Ireland (from the Custom-House Books there) for eight years, to Lady-day, 1728; the same appears to be 227,049 Stones; which still exceeds the Medium of 1713, 1714, by 4,190 Stones. These, indeed, do all exceed the Medium, from 1726 to 1729^f inclusive. And so far it is true, that there has been a Decrease; yet not so constantly gradual, but that these Imports have been also desultory, and sometimes vastly exceeding, not only the Medium of the eight Years, to Lady-day 1728, but possibly, the Medium of the whole Period, from 1711 to 1714^g inclusive; as may be thus made out.

24. The Medium, for eight Years, to Lady-day 1728, was (as above observed) 227,049 Stones; which Quantity multiplied by eight, produces 1,816,392 Stones. That is, so much was the whole Quantity imported from Ireland to England, in eight Years, to Lady-day 1728; whereof, in 1722, i. e. one Year, ending Midsummer.

1723 ^h	271,291 Stones
1726 ⁱ	138,632
1727	130,229

Total in these 3 Years 540,152 Stones

Which deducted from the whole Quantity — 1,816,392 Stones
(for eight Years) there remains, for the
other five Years — 1,276,240 Stones

Which divided by five, is, — 255,248 Stones
for each of the remaining Years, viz. 1720, 1721, 1723, 1724, 1725.

25. But

25. But the Year 1722 (i. e. ending Midsummer 1723,) being 271,291 Stones, it exceeds such Medium of 255,248, by 26,043 Stones, as the said Medium of 255,248, exceeds the Year 1727 (which was but 130,229ⁱ) by 125,019 Stones.) Ch. 126.
§. 10. (C)
1727.

26. Now, there being, as has been said, and as we are ready to allow in the main, a gradual Decrease (tho' not so constantly regular as has been alledged) from 1703 to 1729: In order to find out what was the probable Quantity in 1724 and 1725, two of the five Years in Question; suppose we take them at the Medium of the Year ending, Midsummer 1723 (which was 271,291 Stones) and the Year 1729 (which was 130,521^k Stones) in the whole, for the Years 1724, 1725, 401,812 Stones. Deducting then 401,812, the Quantity thus given for the two Years (1724, 1725,) from 1276,240 the whole Quantity of the five Years, 1720, 1721, 1723, 1724, 1725, and there will remain 874,428 for 1720, 1721, and 1723. Which 874,428 Stones, for three Years, is 291,476 Stones, for each of those Years, upon a Medium; and which exceeds the Medium of the whole Period^l, from 1711 to 1714 inclusive, by a Medium of 7681 Stones. Ch. 126.
§. 10. (C)
1729.

Ch. 126.
§. 10. (B).

27. But then, it appearing ^m that both the whole Exports from Ireland to England, and the Value of the Produce of Sheep particularly, exported from Ireland, in the Year 1723, did vastly exceed the same in the Year 1720, or even in 1721; and (which is most to be observed) it appearing also that the Value of the exported Produce of Sheep from Ireland, was more than twice as much in 1723, as in 1720.—Hence it follows, that the Importation of Wool and YARN from Ireland to England, was more than double, in 1723, to what it was in 1720. §. 19, 20,

See §. 21.

28. Allowing therefore twice 291,486 Stones (the Medium, for one Year of the supposed Total for three Years^o) to two of them, 1720, 1723, (which is 582,972 Stones) and of that, allotting two Thirds to 1723, for the Reason already^p given; and thus we have, in that one Year (1723) imported from Ireland to England, 388,648 Stones of Wool and Yarn; which is more than the Medium of 1700-3 by 27,157 Stones; more than in 1698^r; and (of all the Accounts we have seen) only less than in the single Year 1703^s (which was 397,735 Stones) viz. more than we have hitherto supposed for the Year 1723, by 9087 Stones. §. 26
§. 27.
§. 10. (A)
Ch. 52. §.
4. Note.
§. 10. (A)
1703.

29. But if, besides that the Value of the exported Produce of Sheep from Ireland (i. e. of Wool and Yarn, from thence to England) was more than dou- §. 21.

^u See §. 20.

ble, in 1723, to what it was in 1720, we add this further Consideration, that the Exceedings in that Respect, of the Year 1723, were to those of 1721, as 187,284l. to 135,796l. viz. a Difference of no less than 51,488l. chiefly in Wool and Yarn, (as before observed) And if consequently we abate, in the Year 1721, what may reasonably be accounted of) on the Score of that Difference) from the 291,476 Stones (the Quantity allotted on a Medium to that Year) and, of such Abatement, add so much as is reasonable, to 388,648 Stones, the Quantity already assigned (in this Computation) to the Year 1723 (as being more than double to the Year 1720.) Here is then, tho' not a clear Demonstration, yet a very strong Presumption, that the Quantity of Wool and Yarn imported from Ireland to England, in the Circle of 12 Months, commencing or ending some Time in the Year 1723, did exceed 400,000 Stones. A Sign that IRE-

^{*} See Ch. 143.

No. 1. §. 1.

A Computation.

on. No. 6.

§. 2, 3.

Essay &c.

p. 76.

LAND does in Reality produce MORE Wool, and has MORE of that Produce to spare, than some (we shall find ^{*}) are willing to acknowledge.

30. And this is to be urged, in Abatement of what Mr. Dobbs particularly hath suggested, 'that the Decrease in the usual Imports, of Wool and Yarn, from Ireland to England, of late Years, is an Indication that the Stock of Sheep in that Kingdom, and consequently the whole Quantity of Wool grown there, has been for some Time decreasing.' Whereas, I think, we are rather to impute such Decrease to a growing Excess (as one Cause) of Wool transported thence to FRANCE and other foreign Parts; and (as another) to an Increase, at the same Time, of the Woolen Manufacture in Ireland, both for home Use, and for clandestine Exportation ².

² See Ch. 85.

§. 10.

² Ch. 174.

§. 17, 18.

31. Further, the extraordinary Importations of Irish Wool and Yarn to England from 1721 to 1724 inclusive, is to be noted, as one Cause why the Price of English Wool in England, fell, as we shall see: it did, in that Period, notwithstanding an Increase in the English Woolen Exportation Trade, and contrary to what this Clothier has taught (§. 13.—16, and more particularly §. 14,) viz. 'That a larger Importation of Wool and Yarn from Ireland, is a Means to raise the PRICE of OUR WOOL.' Which, though it be not true, yet is it granting, tacitly at least (what Dr. Davenant ^b and some others, have occasionally and publicly denied, with great Assurance) viz. that 'it is the Benefit and Interest of ENGLAND in general, that OUR WOOL should bear a good Price in our Markets at home.'

^b Ch. 79. §.

23.

C H A P. CXXVII.

Report from the Commissioners of Trade to the Lords, 1731-2.

P. S. Also from the same to the Commons, 1732.

May it please your Lordships,

1. **H**IS Majesty having been pleased, in Consequence of your Lordships Address, of the 6th of *May* last, to direct the Commissioners for Trade and Plantations, to receive all such Proposals as should be laid before them, for preventing the pernicious Practice of running Wool from *England* and *Ireland*, and to consider of, and to propose proper Methods for preventing the same for the future, to be laid before your Lordships in this Session of Parliament: We did thereupon give publick Notice in the *Gazette* of the 12th of *June* last, that we were ready to receive any Proposals which should be made to us on this Head, from all Persons whatsoever.

2. Since the Publication of this Advertisement, which was often repeated in the *Gazette* and other publick Papers, we have been attended by several Persons, and many Schemes have been transmitted to us from different Parts of this Kingdom, and from *Ireland*; containing various Proposals upon this Subject; some of which are come but very lately to our Hands; and it has been with great Satisfaction, that we have observed the Zeal with which so many Persons have applied themselves to consider of proper Methods, for putting a Stop to a Practice so very pernicious to the trading Interest of their Country.

3. Those who seem to have most maturely considered this Matter, concur in Opinion, that nothing can put so effectual a Stop to this Evil, as the finding out some certain Method of knowing the whole Quantity of Wool that may be in the Kingdom, whether in Warehouses or on the Sheeps Back, and tracing it through the Hands of the Wool-Stapler, and all the Traders who deal in this Commodity, till it shall be finally wrought up by the Manufacturer.

4. In order to this, it has been proposed, that Warehouses should be erected at the publick Expence, in such Counties of *England* and *Ireland*, where considerable Numbers of Sheep may be fed, or where the Woollen Manufacture may be carried on in any great Extent, into which the Wool
of

of the two Kingdoms should be brought within a certain Number of Days after it is shorn, in order to be afterwards transported, under proper Regulations, from *Ireland* to *England*, and from one County of *England* to another, in Proportion to the Demand there may be for it among the Manufacturers.

5. Others have proposed, that general Registers should be established in *England* and *Ireland*, for entering the exact Number of Sheep and Lambs, with the yearly Quantity of Wool shorn from them, or pulled from the Skins, together with the Names of all such as deal in the Commodity.

6. In Addition to the Proposition for public Warehouses, it has been offered by another Hand, that all the Wool produced in this Kingdom, should be bought in the King's Name at certain Prices, to be ascertained at a Medium, upon the different Growths of Wool, for so many Years past, and that the Product of the first Year's Growth, and the Value of the Stock in Hand, should be paid for by a small Land-Tax, of three * Pence or six Pence in the Pound; by which Means, the Growers would receive ready Money for their Wool, which would be very beneficial both to Landlords and Tenants. But if this should be thought impracticable, it is further proposed by the same Person, that Payment for the Wool may be postponed, till it be sold in Part, or in the Whole, or that the Growers should be left at Liberty to sell it themselves to the Manufacturers, provided they deliver it to the Storekeeper, under proper Regulations.

7. Many of the Proposers concur in Opinion, that the best Method of preserving an exact Knowledge of the Wool in its Progression, from the first Growers to the Manufacturer, will be to put it under the Inspection of the Officers of Excise; and different Methods have been suggested for putting this Proposal in Execution.

8. It has been said under the same Head, That all Dealers in Wool may be obliged to enter the Warehouses and Store-rooms, wherein they keep their Commodities, with the Excise ^b Officer of their Division; into which the Officer shall have free Admission at any Time, and no Wool should be brought into the Warehouse, before Notice given of it to the Excise Office, under a certain Penalty.

^b Chap. 114.
§. 6.
Chap. 146.
N^o. 3.

* The present Land Tax, when 4 s. (as it is commonly called) in the Pound, does not raise two Millions in *England* and *Wales*.^a But the Wool of *England* and *Wales* was long since estimated at full two Millions yearly.

^a Chap. 48.
§ 1. Note.

9. That

9. That every Owner of Sheep shall give Notice when he intends to shear his Flock, that the Officer may be present, to take an Account of the Number of Sheep, and Weight of Wool shorn, and that every Felmonger may be obliged to inform the Officer of that Division of the Weight of the Wool which he shall pull from Skins, and in general, that all Dealers in Wool shall be obliged to give an Account to their Excise Officer of all the Wool in their Possession; that no Wool shall be removed from Warehouses so entered, except by Virtue of a Permit from the Excise Officer, to be renewed as often as the Wool shall pass from one Dealer to another, till it comes to the Hands of the Manufacturer.

10. It has been likewise suggested, that the Excise Officer may take a Bond from the first Buyer, whereby he shall oblige himself to manufacture the Wool he buys; but if the Purchaser be not a Manufacturer, that then Notice should be given to the Officer of the Division, whenever the Wool should be re-sold, either in the Whole, or in Part, and fresh Bonds be given by the Buyers, till the same shall be finally manufactured; and some have thought that for the better Security of this Matter, the Manufacturer should be obliged to make Oath, that he will manufacture the Wool he buys.

11. Without Doubt, the keeping Sight of the Wool, from the Time it is shorn, till it is brought into the Hand of the last Manufacturer, might greatly contribute to the putting a Stop to the running of Wool. *But all the foregoing Proposals would probably be attended with a Multiplicity of Accounts, besides other Difficulties, and great Expence.* We would therefore humbly offer some other Methods to your Lordships, which seem liable to fewer Difficulties, but may nevertheless be very conducive to the Cure of this Grievance.

12. With regard to *Great Britain*, we would propose, That the Law^b now in Force in *Kent* and *Sussex*, intituled, An Act, &c.^c may be extended to all Parts of the Kingdom within ten Miles of the Sea Coasts.

^b See 9, 10 W. III. c. 40. ^c Chap. 78.

13. That no Wool be brought or imported from *Ireland* into this Kingdom, or Coast-wise in *England*, except in Vessels registered^d and appointed solely for that Purpose; and that all Wool shipped on Board any other Vessel, shall be liable to Seizure, by the Captains of his Majesty's Ships of War, by the Commanders of the Register Ships, and Custom-House Officers, and Excise Officers, and by all other Persons duely authorized; and that Officers be appointed to put the Laws in Execution against the running of

^d § 5.

^a See 12

Geo. II.

c. 21.

(Chap. 142;

P. S.)

of Wool, with ample Encouragement to the Informers, easily to be recovered, and proportionable Penalties laid on Offenders.

14. But as every Thing that may be proposed for the Cure of this Evil in *Great Britain* only, would be far from answering the Design upon the whole, unless proper Methods should at the same Time be found to prevent the Exportation of Wool, and of Woolen Manufactures from *Ireland* to foreign Parts; so many of the same Persons who have considered this Matter, with respect to *Great Britain*, have also extended their Thoughts to *Ireland*.

15. And some of them have proposed to apply the foregoing Expedient of Country Ware-houses, general Registers, and the Inspection of the Custom-House Officers, as proper to be put in Practice in *Ireland*; with this Addition, that certain Staple Towns should be appointed in that Kingdom, for the Reception of Wool grown there.

16. But we are of Opinion, That the most likely Means, and most attainable for these Purposes, would be absolutely to prohibit the shipping of Wool in *Ireland*, except in Ships and Vessels appointed for that Service only; and no Wool Licenses should be granted for shipping of Wool aboard any other Vessel.

17. That the explanatory Clause contained in an Act passed in the 11th and 12th of his late Majesty King *William*,^d (whereby Leave was given to every Mariner, or Passenger on Board the Ship, to furnish himself with the Woolen Manufacture of *Ireland*, to the Amount of 40 s.) may be repealed; since it is highly probable, that under this Pretence, the Woolen Manufactures of *Ireland* first found their Way to foreign Markets in large Quantities.

^d See (Chap. 87. §. 17. Note) 11, 12 W. III. c. 13. See (Chap. 127.) §. 22. P. S.

18. That the Captains of *English* Men of War, and Sloops, as well as the Commanders of the Register Ships, and all Officers of his Majesty's Customs and Excise, may be invested with full Power and Authority, to seize all *Irish* Woolen Goods, which they shall find in any Ship or Vessel whatsoever, and all Wool which shall be found on Board of any other but the said Register Vessels.

19. And these Provisions are the more necessary, because we have been credibly informed, that of late Years, *British* Merchants have given no small Encouragement to the *Irish* Woolen Manufactures, by buying up and exporting great Quantities from that Kingdom, on their own Accounts, to foreign Parts.

20. And

20. And provided an effectual Stop could be put to the Exportation of *Irish* Woolen Manufactures, and of *Irish* Wool to foreign Parts, we should conceive that it would be highly for the Benefit of *Great Britain*, freely and without Duties, to admit the Importation of their Yarn.

21. And, in order to make this Benefit more extensive, we would beg Leave to submit to your Lordships Consideration, whether it may not be proper to open all Ports of *Ireland* and *England*, for the Exportation and Importation of *Irish* Wool and Yarn, but more particularly the Ports of *Galway* and *London*; for we are informed that great Quantities of the best Wool in *Ireland*, are produced within thirty Miles round that Town of *Galway*, which is above 100 Miles distant from any Sea Port now open for the Exportation of Wool from that Kingdom; so that the Land Carriage in *Ireland* creates an Addition of about six *per Cent.* upon the prime Cost of the Wool, before it comes to any of the Ports from whence it can be sent to *England*, as the Law now stands; and in the same Manner, the Charges of carrying a Pack of *Irish* Yarn from the Port of *Bristol* to *Colchester*, or *Norwich*, has been computed to be no less than 5 *per Cent.* at a Medium, upon the prime Cost of the Yarn; and the Charge of carrying a Pack of *Irish* Wool between those Places, is computed at near 15 *per Cent.* upon the prime Cost of the Wool; which being impartially considered, we conceive it will appear unreasonable to your Lordships, that the Manufacturers in one Part of the Kingdom, should remain under the Necessity of working up the *Irish* Wool and Yarn, near 10 *per Cent* dearer than others: A Difficulty that would be entirely removed, by opening the Port of *London*, which lies conveniently for supplying the Manufactures of *Essex*, and the adjacent Counties.

22. These are the principal Matters that have occurred to us upon this Enquiry; to which we would beg Leave to add, that those Provisions as shall be approved of, and more particularly what relates to the Register Ships, may be extended to the Isles of *Man*, *Guernsey*, *Jersey*, *Alderney*, and *Sark*.

All which is humbly submitted to your Lordships great Wisdom.

Whiteball,
Feb. 25.
1731-2.

Westmoreland,
P. Docminique,
T. Pelham,
Edw. Ashe,

M. Bladen.
Orl. Bridgeman,
Ar. Croft,
James Brudenell.

P. S. *An additional Act for the Encouragement of the Woolen Manufactures of this Kingdom, by the more effectual preventing the unlawful Exportation of the Woolen Manufactures of the Kingdom of Ireland, to foreign Parts* †. 5 Geo. 2. c. 21.

Extract of a Report from the Commissioners of Trade, touching the Manufactures of the British Colonies, to the House of Commons, 1732.

A State of the Silk, Linen and Woolen Manufactures in the British Plantations.

23. We beg Leave to acquaint this House, that, pursuant to an Order of the Committee of Council, this Board did on the 5th Day of *December* 1728, make a very particular Enquiry into the State of the Plantations at that Time, with respect to Silk, Linen, and Woolen Manufactures established there; and having then discoursed with many Persons who had either been Governors of some of the Colonies, or were by other Means well acquainted with their Circumstances, it appeared to this Board, and we did accordingly represent,

† Chap. 120.
§. 28. Note.

24. That in the Colonies of *New England, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania*, and in the County of *Somerset* in *Maryland* †, the People had fallen into the Manufacture of Woolen and Linen Cloth for the Use of their own Families; but we could not learn they had ever made any for Sale in those Colonies, except in a small *Indian Town* in *Pennsylvania*, where some *Palatines* had been lately settled.

25. The Reasons why these People had begun this Manufacture, were,

1. That the Product of those Colonies being chiefly Stock and Grain, the Estates of the Inhabitants depended wholly upon farming; and as this could not be carried on without a certain Quantity of SHEEP, their WOOL would be entirely lost, were not their Servants employed at leisure Times of the Year, but chiefly during Winter, in manufacturing it for the Use of their Families.——That these Settlements had no Opportunities of a Market

† Chap. 85.
§. 7.

† 11, 12 W.
III. c. 13.
See Ch. 87.
§. 17.

† ‘ By 10, 11 Will. III. c. 10. ‘ certain Ships and Sloops stationed on the Coasts of *England* and *Ireland*, had Orders to take and seize, &c. Ships, &c. exporting any *Wool* to foreign Parts, ‘ but were not authorized to seize such Ships, &c. as were exporting *Woolen Manufacture* from ‘ *Ireland* to foreign Parts. And therefore the Admiralty is empowered to appoint three Ships, ‘ and eight or more armed Sloops, to cruize on the Coasts of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, with ‘ Power to seize Vessels having *Woolen Manufactures* on Board, from *Ireland*, for foreign Parts. ‘ And whereas by a Clause of a former Act †, Mariners and Passengers were allowed to have ‘ *Woolen Goods* on Board, for their own Use, to the Value of 40 s. each; under Pretence of ‘ which Exemption, great Quantities have been exported. Therefore the said Clause is repealed.’

for

for Grain, and therefore as they did not raise more Corn than was sufficient for their own Use, they had the more Time to manufacture both WOOL* and Flax for the Service of their Families, and seemed to be under a great Necessity of doing it.

26. Upon a farther Enquiry into this Matter, we do not find that those People had the same Temptation to go on with those Manufactures, during the Time that the Bounty on Naval Stores subsisted. That the Height of Wages, and great Price of Labour, made it impracticable for the People there to manufacture Woolen Cloth at less than 50 *per Cent.* dearer than that which is exported from hence for Sale.

27. But several Alterations have happened since that Time; and we find Trades carried on, and Manufactures set up there, detrimental to the Trade, Navigation and Manufacture of *Great Britain*.

28. Colonel *Shute*, Governor of the *Massachusetts Bay*, informed us, that in some Parts of this Province, the Inhabitants worked up their WOOL and FLAX, and made an ordinary coarse Cloth for their own Use, but that the Merchants could afford what was imported, cheaper than what was made in that Country.

29. Colonel *Hart*, formerly Governor of *Maryland*, who lived many Years in the Neighbourhood of this Government (*Pensylvania*) informs us, that their chief Trade lay in the Exportation of Provisions and Lumber; having no Manufactures established.

2. The Country People who used formerly to make most of their Cloathing out of their own WOOL, do not now make a third Part of what they wear.

30. Mr. *Belcher*, Governor of *New Hampshire*, informs us, that the Woolen Manufacture of that Province was much less than formerly the common Lands on which the Sheep used to feed, being now divided into particular Properties; and their Exportation being Naval Stores, Lumber†, Fish, &c.

31. Mr. *Rip Van Dam*, President of the Council of *New York* acquaints us, there is yearly imported a very large Quantity of the Woolen Manufacture of this Kingdom, which they could not pay for, and should be reduced

* And a stronger Inducement to the depasturing of their Lands with Sheep, to the Increase of the Produce, WOOL.

† But Query, whether, reducing common Lands into Severalties, is any where a Means of lessening the Number of Sheep? and whether WOOL may not probably be exported hence, clandestinely, to the Streights, &c. in what is called the Lumber Trade?

to the Necessity of making, themselves, if they were prohibited from receiving from the foreign Sugar Colonies, in Return for Provisions,—
WOOL, &c.

32. Major *Gordon*, Deputy Governor of *Pensylvania*, informs us, that they do not export any Woolen or Linen Manufactures ; all they make (which are of the coarse Sort) being for the Use of themselves and Families.

33. By some Accounts we find, that the Produce of *Connecticut* is Timber, *English* Grain, Hemp, Flax, SHEEP, Cattle.

34. There are more Trades carried on, and Manufactures set up in the Provinces of the Continent of *America*, to the Northward of *Virginia*, prejudicial to the Trade and Manufactures of *Great Britain*, particularly in *New England*, than in any other of the *British* Colonies ; which is not to be wondered at ; for their Soil, Climate, and Produce, being pretty near the same with ours, they have no Staple Commodities of their own Growth, to exchange for our Manufactures, which puts them under greater Necessity, as well as greater Temptation, of providing themselves at Home. To which may be added, in the Charter Governments, the little Dependance they have upon their Mother Country, and consequently the small Restraints they are under in any Matters detrimental to her Interest.

C H A P. CXXVIII.

The Interest of Scotland considered, with Regard to its Policy in employing the Poor, its Agriculture, Trade, Manufacture, &c. Edinburgh 1733.

Page 5.

1. **E**VER since the Beginning of the Confusions in the Reign of *Charles I.* our Linen Manufactures have been upon the Decay ; as also, our Manufactures of Silk Goods, fine broad Cloths, and several others of less Moment, which were introduced at a great Expence, and too long carried on with Loss to the Nation, have in a great Measure totally failed ; till an Act of Parliament, *Anno 1727*, for Encouragement more particularly of the Linen Manufacture, gave a new Turn in Favour of the same. It

Page 16.

has

has done us infinite Good in many Respects. Our Linen Trade is in some Measure already retrieved.

2. Every trading Country has some particular Branch of Business, which depends partly on some particular Product of their own for Manufacture, but more upon their Skill and Dexterity in making their Goods. Page 76.

3. Woolen Goods are the Staple Commodity of *England*; in which they have the natural Advantage of great Quantities of very good Wool of their own. But this bears no Proportion to the Skill of their Workmen, their Diligence, and the great Stocks of particular Clothiers, &c. Page 77.

4. The Wool of all the Growths of *Europe*, was for many Ages bought up and manufactured by the Inhabitants of the *Netherlands*. The Woolen Trade was first set on Foot in *England*, in the Reign of *Edw. III.* but it made small Progress until the Reign of *Phil. II.* of *Spain*. Now, they not only manufacture their own Wool, but also the Wool of *Spain*, and the best Growths of other Countries, and, in great Measure, may justly be called the sole Masters of the Woolen Trade. Chap. 4.
§. 16.
Page 81.

5. The People of the Low Countries taught us to sort, wash, and dress Wool; to spin it, and weave Cloth, &c. But this was not pursued to any Purpose. Page 83.

6. From *England* we are served with Broad Cloths of all Kinds, from the best *Spanish* Wool Superfines, to the lowest Price *Yorkshires*, with *Norwich* Goods of all Kinds, &c. The first Article we have, to answer all these Demands, consists of Product, namely, our black Cattle and Sheep, and some of our Wool, when the Woolen Trade in *England* is quick. This Article cannot well be increased, unless our low Grounds were inclosed, and more of them turned into Grass. Our chief Care then ought to be, to advance the Manufacture of those Goods, which we sell in *England*, or which comes to the same, to promote the Manufacture at Home, of such as we now have from *England*. Page 101.
Page 102.
Page 103.

7. At *Kilmarnock*, are made of our own Wool, low priced Serges. These are partly for home Consumption, and partly for the Markets of *Holland*. And by the Help of a little Care and Encouragement, burying Crape, at least those of a low Price, might also be made there for home Consumption. — At *Sterling*, and its Neighbourhood, large Quantities of Serges are made, and several other low priced Goods for Furniture; all for home Consumption, and rather cheaper than such Goods can be purchased in *England*. This Business is much improv'd of late. At *Aberdeen*, and Countries. Page 105.

Page 106.

tries adjacent, large Quantities of our own coarse tarred Wool are manufactured into Serges, called *Fingrams*, and knit Stockins of all Prices. Some of these Goods are consumed at home, some of them exported to *Holland*; and some of them sold at *London*, and from thence exported to foreign Parts. At *Edinburgh*, fine Shalloons are made of our best Wool, for home Consumption, and cheaper than they can be had in *England*. At *Musleburgh*, there is a considerable Manufacture of low priced narrow Goods, for home Consumption, and Export to the Plantations.—At *Gallowshiels*, are made a few coarse Kerfies. At *Kirkudbright*, *Hawick*, *Monygaff*, and other Places near the Wool Countries, several Packs of tarred Wool have been washed and cleaned, and some of it sorted and combed, spun and wrought up into Blankets, and other coarse Goods by private Hands for their own Use; all done by the Help of publick Encouragement, to advance the Price of Wool in those Parts, but as yet to little or no Purpose.

Ch. 91. §. 8.
Note.

8. The Gentlemen who procured a publick Fund^h for encouraging the Manufacture of our coarse Wool, seem to have been Strangers to the Business, when they adjected this Condition, to limit the Encouragement to those Counties where the Wool is produced; the Consumption of that Wool can only be made by the Encouragement of its Manufacture, in those Places already mentioned, where it now is, and where it has been carried on for many Ages; for in the Wool Countries there are not Hands for Manufacture. All that can be proposed there, is to clean and wash their Wool, and send it to the Market sorted; and in this they will save a great deal of Carriage.

Page 108.

9. One Branch of our Woolen Manufacture ought to be altered, and that is our Bed Blankets. We have always been used to furnish ourselves with these; but we spin them too fine, and make them after the manner of Kerfies; they consume little Wool, and as they require much Manufacture, they become dear; and this is a Reason that of late, several have furnished themselves with *English* Blankets.

Page 109.

10. As for the Manufacture of broad Cloth, that consists of so many Parts, that we cannot carry it on without evident Loss. *First*, we have no such Thing as a Wool-Stapler^{*} in the Country, which lays the Clo-

Ch. 71. §.
18. Note.

* A very slender Reason this, against cultivating the Woolen Manufacture in *Scotland*; nor are those that follow, Impediments of any more considerable Force^l. But this Author seems to have been wholly immersed in the *Lincoln Trade* of that Kingdom; consequently, like too many others, will rather argue weakly, than divest himself of Partiality to his own more immediate Interest.

thier

thier under a Necessity to buy his Wool in the Fleece; and unless he works up all the Sorts himself (which no Clothier can do without great Loss) he must lose by the Sorts he does not use. The washing, cleaning, and drying Wool, by beating it on the Flecks, we understand pretty well; but we neither dye so well, nor so cheap as the *English* do; and we have but few Scriblers, who understand the close mixing of Wool on the Cards for Medleys. Our Women are all bred to spin Linen Yarn, and are not so fit to spin Woolen, especially carded Wool for Cloth. We understand the picking of Cloth, and the thickening of it pretty well; but we are not so adroit at the tasselling it on the dubbing Boards, and are at a Loss that we have no Tassels * of our own Growth fit for this Work, but are obliged to bring them from *England* in large Quantities to lye by us, as we have Occasion to use them. The most curious and difficult Operation of the whole, is the cutting on the Shear-Board, and finishing in the hot Press. We have no Shearmen of our own, that understand their Business to Perfection, and as few Press-men; and must bring our Press-Papers from *England*; and the Profits of the whole Manufacture depend upon the close and equal cutting from End to End, and upon proper and clean Papers for every Staple of Cloth, and a just Degree of Heat and Pressure in the hot Press, neither too much, nor too little of either. Page 110.

11. The *English* have been long Masters of the Woolen Trade; their Clothiers and Piece-buyers are Men of Stocks, able to carry it on; whereas we have no Stocks equal to so great an Undertaking. We must also be at the Expence of Workmen from *England* for several Branches, at higher Wages than they get at home; and we cannot expect to get the best Workmen. These and many other Difficulties hinted at, not easily to be conquered, render it absolutely impossible for us to succeed in the Woolen Trade, at least, in Broad Cloth, Druggets, fine Kerfies, and the Woolen Goods of *Norwich*; nor is this any Loss to us, since we have a Staple Manufacture of our own; at least, may have the Linen, in which the *English* deal not. They are too wise to encourage any Manufacture in the weaving Way, that might interfere in the great Staple, the Woolen. And we should learn of them to discourage every Trade that may interfere with, or hinder the Progress of, our only Staple. Page 111.

* *Teazel*, *Carduus Fullonum*, or the *Fullers Thistle*, a kind of Plant much used by the Fullers, Cloth Workers, and Stockin Weavers, to card or draw out the Wool or Nap from the Ground m. Ch. 173.
(See *Chambers m. Dictionary*. §. 3.

Page 112.

12. We may then reasonably suppose, on the lowest Computation, that we can buy (and from daily Experience we know it to be so) those Woolen Goods 10 and 15 *per Cent.* cheaper in *England* than we can make them at home; and if we can make Linen Cloth, and sell it in *England* from 5 to 10 *per Cent.* Profit, and purchase in Exchange for it, Woolen Goods 10 and 15 *per Cent.* cheaper than we can make them at home, then are we Gainers by this Trade, from 15 to 20 *per Cent.* and of Consequence just so many Hands as are employed in the Woolen, who might be employed in the Linen, just so much does the Country lose by their Labour.

Ch. 71.

13. What puts this Position (of itself sufficiently evident) beyond all Question, was the Experiment we made of a Manufactory of Broad Cloths at *New Mills*^m near *Haddington*, before the Union. As good Superfines were there made, as ever were made in *England*; but by reason of the Disadvantages we laboured under in this Trade, already mentioned, the Dealer paid for them 25 *per Cent.* more than he could have bought them for in *England*. As this Trade was carried on by a Company, no doubt their Loss was greater than if it had been carried on by private Hands; but if 10 *per Cent.* is allowed for Management, and that is a great deal more than any Business can bear, the Trade was still unprofitable, though it had been carried on by private Hands, and a great Loss to the Country. *English* made Cloths were contrabandⁿ; but as all the Cloths we could make ourselves, bore no Proportion to our Consumption, great Quantities of *English* Cloths were clandestinely imported; for the great Profits the Dealers made then by them, was sufficient to answer the Risk of Confiscation, if taken.

Ch. 71. §.
12. Note

Page 118.

14. Thus we see plainly how far our Woolen Manufacture may and ought to be encouraged, and what Branches of it ought to be given up as a Loss to the Country. All our other home made Goods are mostly for home Consumpt, and are all made in *England*, fully better, and sold cheaper than here; which must be owing to the superior Skill and Diligence of their Tradesmen; since living is easier here than in most Places of *England*.

Page 128,
129.

Page 130.

Page 142.

15. Linen is a Commodity of universal Use. The Linen Trade of *Europe* is at this Time in the Hands of the *Russians*, *Germans*, &c. The Balance of Trade betwixt *England*, and all those foreign Linen Countries, is now against *England*, by Reason of high Duties imposed by them on *English* Woolen Goods, and other Incumbrances, which in some of those Parts, is near equal to a Prohibition. This State of our Trade calls loudly upon us to improve and extend the Manufacture of home made Linen. At *Darlington*

lington in *Yorkshire*, some Linen is made; but it lies too near *Leeds* and other clothing Towns. In *Lancashire*, the Linen Trade may safely be carried on; it interferes not with the Cotton, but is the Warp of all their Fustians, and several other Cotton Goods. In short, the Linen Manufacture is of the next Consequence to that of Woollen; it may employ near as many Hands, and equally deserves the same Care, Countenance and Encouragement. The Act of Parliameut, made in 1727, hath done a great deal, but we still want further Assistance from the Publick, in order to its being carried to its full Extent and Perfection. Page 143.
Page 144.

C H A P. CXXIX.

An Argument upon the Woollen Manufacture of Great-Britain, plainly demonstrating, that Ireland must speedily be employed therein, as the only Means to recover its Decay, and to prevent its Ruin. Dedicated to Robert Willimot, Esq; Chairman of the Committee for the Woollen Manufacture, 1735.

1. **T**O forbid the Export of any Commodity to another Country, is to command it to be sold at your own Price, to yourselves, which is nothing better than downright Robbery *. *England* has never exercised her Power over *Ireland*, but she has suffered for it. The whole World see it in two Instances. 1. The Act to prohibit *Irish* Cattle. 2. The Destruction of the Woollen Manufacture of that Kingdom. The first is generally now, allowed to be destructive. The second begins by its fatal Consequences, somewhat to open the Eyes of Men. The Consequences of it were, 1. The Expulsion of 30,000 Manufacturers from that Country. 2. Their Retreat into foreign Countries. 3. The Establishment thereupon of the Woollen Manufacture in almost all Parts of *Europe*. 4. The Exportation of *English* and *Irish* Wool. 5. The gradual and notorious Decay of our Trade from that very Hour †. Page 7.
Page 9
Page 10.

VOL. II.

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2. From

* Apply this to the Case, of prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool from England.

† Here are five Sentences, every one of which contains more or less of Untruth.

In the Year 1697, (the Year but one, before the Act complained of) the total Value of Woolen

Page 11.

2. From these Consequences we ought to observe, that the Decay of our Trade does not arise from the Exportation of *Irish* Wool. That were to make an Effect a Cause. To ascribe the Misfortune of the Retreat of Manufacturers from *Ireland*, and the Establishment of foreign Manufactures, as a Cause, would be equally wrong. These are but the Effects of one fatal Cause, the vain Expectation of engrossing the Woolen Manufacture to ourselves; narrow Principles, which in proving too much, prove nothing but their own Absurdity.

Page 14.

3. Those, whose Estates rise from Wool; those who manufacture Wool, imagine, that by admitting *Ireland* to a Share in the Woolen Manufacture, their Estates must fall, and also the Price of Labour. But their *Estates* are, now raised *too high*, to suffer any Commerce to thrive, or to continue in our Favour, and *their Labour is too dear*. If they will have Commerce then, they must suffer their *Estates to fall*, their *Labour to lower its Price*.

Page 16.

4. Can we keep our Manufacture as we are? If we can, why so much Noise and Clamour upon the Subject? Why such Complaints of Manufacturers? Applications to Parliament, and Committees appointed to consider these Complaints and Applications? Why Bills brought in, for many Years together, to secure it? If we cannot keep our Manufactures, as we are, how would the Gain of the *Irish* be out of the Manufacture of *England*?

Page 17.

The Gain of the *Irish* must be out of the Woolen Manufacture of those Countries which will succeed us in it. And who will succeed us in it? Or rather who has already got it from us? *France* in the principal Part. The Gain of the *Irish* then in the Woolen Manufacture, must be a Gain upon the Manufacture of *France*. The *Irish* can under-sell the *French* in that Manufacture; and if they were allowed a full Liberty of trading in their own Manufacture, they would export *no raw Wool* or *Woolen Yarn*; and without Wool, or *Woolen Yarn* of *their Growth*, the foreign Manufactures,

Ch. 126.
§. 9.

Woolen Manufactures exported from *Ireland*, was 23,614 *l.* 9 *s.* 6 *d.*; accounting the Wool whereof to be one Fourth of that Sum, viz. about 6000 *l.* the Value of the Labour was about 18,000 *l.* But could 18,000 *l.* support 30,000 Manufacturers, for a Year? Supposing therefore (which is not credible) that every individual Manufacturer employed in *Ireland*, in making Drapery in the Year 1697, to the Value aforesaid, had left the Kingdom; yet is No. 1. a great Exaggeration, and consequently No. 2. No. 3. is no less erroneous, in supposing the Woolen Manufacture to have been a new Thing at this Time, in almost any Part of *Europe*. No. 4. also in dating from hence only, the Exportation of *English* and *Irish* Wool. And No. 5. which supposes a Decay of the *English* Trade, is an equal Falsehood; since besides an Increase in *England* of all other Manufacture and Trade, even the Woolen Exportations from *England* have maintained their Ground, nay advanced, from that Time.

our Rivals, *cannot exist*. Is it doubted that the *Irish* Wool and Yarn be necessary to the Manufactures of *France*? We are told by all that are conversant^p in this Business, *that they cannot carry on their Trade without it*. Page 19.
p Ch. 69.
§. 1.

5. Moreover, in whatever Branches of Manufacture the *Irish* or *English* Wool is employed in *France*, it works up *twice as much* of the *French* Wool. Thus, one thousand Stone of *Irish* or *English* Wool, produces three thousand Stones of *French* Manufactures. If the *Irish* therefore were now allowed to work up all their Wool, they could but manufacture one Third of that Quantity. This is the only Quantity, or only Kind of Cloth * in *France*, for Exportation, and the greatest Part of it is employed in Exportation. All the CLOTH of *France*, for Exportation, is thus capable of being destroyed; yet the *Irish* can gain but one Third of that Exportation. The Demand for Cloth must continue the same. There must then remain two Thirds of that Demand unsatisfied. Who can satisfy this Demand? Foreigners cannot, from the Nature of their Wool. The *Irish* cannot, because they have not Quantity sufficient. The *English* therefore must. Thus will the *English* plainly benefit as much again by opening the *Irish* Commerce, as the *Irish* can do themselves; for of the Ruins of the *French* Manufacture, two Thirds must necessarily fall into our † Lap. Page 21.

C H A P. CXXX.

The Act commonly called The Manchester Act, 1735-6.

1. *AN Act † to amend an Act passed in the seventh^{*} Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King George I. intitled, an Act to preserve and encourage* Ch. 118.
§. 7.

H 2

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* Here observe the Word CLOTH. We shall soon find another Person strongly vouching the same marvellous Qualities in *English* and *Irish* Wool, when mixed with that of *France*, in all other Manufacture, except CLOTH. Ch. 140.

† This Gentleman would at last persuade us, that he is no *Irish* man. And perhaps he was not, considering what is said (Chap. 127. §. 19.) of some *British* Merchants.

Be that as it will, the Utility, to *England*, of what he contends for, depends altogether upon the Truth of that, which we have already been told, and shall see most clearly hereafter is certainly false. viz. *That the French cannot carry on their Woolen Trade without English or Irish Wool*. Ch. 105.
§. 12, 14.

‡ This Act recites that 'whereas great Quantities of Stuffs, made of Linen Yarn and Cotton Wool, have for several Years past, been manufactured, and have been printed and painted with in this Kingdom of Great Britain; and the said Manufactures so printed and painted, are a Branch of the ancient Fustian Manufacture of this Kingdom; and have been, and are now used and

rage the Woollen and Silk Manufactures of this Kingdom, and for more effectually employing the Poor, by prohibiting the Use and Wear of all printed, painted, stained, or dyed Callicoes (except as is therein excepted) so far as relates to Goods made of Linen Yarn and Cotton Wool manufactured in Great Britain.
9 Geo. 2. c. 4.

C H A P. CXXXI.

The Golden Fleece; Or the Trade, Interest, and Well-Being of Great Britain considered; with Remarks on the Rise, Progress, and present Decay of our Woollen Manufactures, &c.

Page 3.

1. **O**UR native Merchandize consists in Wool, Butter, Hides, Tallow, Timber, Lead, and Iron. And if our worthy Ancestors would not suffer the first and best of these (the Wool) to be carried out in the In-

and worn in Apparel and Furniture. And whereas some Doubt hath arisen, whether the Use and wearing of the said Stuffs, when the same are so printed and painted, be prohibited by the said recited Act; whereby the said Manufacture is discouraged, and may be utterly lost, and great Numbers of his Majesty's Subjects and their Families, whose Livelihood intirely depends thereupon, may be ruined, and the Poor greatly increased, if not timely prevented.

Therefore enacts, that nothing in the said recited Act shall extend, or be construed to prohibit the wearing or using, &c. any Sort of Stuff made of Linen Yarn and Cotton Wool, manufactured and printed or painted with any Colour or Colours, within the Kingdom of Great Britain; provided that the Warp thereof be entirely Linen Yarn.

^aCh. 118.
§. 7.

*N. B. This is what goes under the Name of the Manchester Act. The Statute thereby said to be amended, commonly called the Callico Act (7 Geo. c. 7.) was made at the Instance of all the Silk and Woollen Manufacturers in the Kingdom; and was chiefly solicited by the Citizens of Norwich. And the whole landed Interest of the Kingdom, under the Notion of Benefit to Growers as well as Manufacturers of Wool, came heartily into it—But tho' that Act prohibited the Use of Calicoes in Great Britain, for Apparel or Furniture; yet were they not prohibited in Ireland or in the British Plantations. Again, tho' all Stuffs made of, or mixed with Cotton, had been prohibited, in like Manner, as Calicoes, yet was there an Exception made in Behalf of Fustians. And this present Act (9 Geo. 2. c. 4.) says that the Manufacturers at Manchester, under the Cover of that Exception, had contrived to furnish Great Britain, with a Manufacture of Thread and Cotton mixed, which supplied, in a great Measure, the Place of Calicoes. And now, when this Manufacture at Manchester, was grown to a very considerable Pitch, and the People there, were become so rich and numerous by it, as for several Years successively (we are told ^x) to have expended 30,000*l.* per Ann.*

^aCh. 118.
§. 7. Note.

in new Buildings; the Silk and Woollen Manufacturers of the Kingdom began to take Umbrage at the same. But by this Time, the Number of these Manufacturers at Manchester, of Cotton and Linen mixed, was too great, and their Interest too considerable, to be suppressed: On the contrary, we find they had Influence sufficient to get this succedaneous Manufacture (concerning the Legality of wearing which, in Apparel or Furniture, some Doubts had justly arisen) established by this Law (9 Geo. 2. c. 4.) So that these Cottons are not only become a common Wear and Use in both, as, before the Year 1720, Callicoe was, but there is so much Likeness between the latter, and such printed and painted Cottons, that Callicoes, not only manufactured, but painted in India, are become no very uncommon Wear also in Great Britain. And thus the Callicoe Act of 1720, is in some Measure superseded, or rather defeated, as also, in Respect of Chints, that of 11, 12 Will. III. c. 10.

²Ch. 139.
§. 11.

fancy

fancy of its Manufacture, how much stronger are the Reasons now for keeping it at Home, when we are thus improved in it, and by being Masters of the Seas, have it in our Power, from a *peculiar Growth of Wool* (*which all other Nations stand in need of*) to be the ONLY Sellers of it to Foreigners.

2. It would be endless to recite the many Laws made at different Page 4. Times by our Ancestors to prevent the unlawful † Exportation of *British* and *Irish* Wool to foreign Parts. The Rise of our Woolen Manufactures took their Date from the Reign of the renowned Queen *Elizabeth*, by settling the *Walloons* and *Flanderkins* in several Clothing Countries and Boroughs in *England*.

3. Upon the Improvement of our Woolen Manufactures *Fullers Earth* was found very useful, which occasioned several Laws to prevent the Exportation of that also, not only to foreign Nations, but to *Ireland*. Soon after our Woolen Manufactures came to Perfection, great Quantities were sent to *Turkey*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, and many other foreign Nations; and *Great Britain* tasting the Sweets of this Trade, several additional Laws were made, to prevent the Exportation of Wool and Fullers Earth.

4. The Customs, Laws, Practices and Exigencies of former Ages, are standing Proofs of this Truth, that the Exportation of all Commodities prejudicial to our home Manufactures, have been constantly forbid by the Legislature; and our Ancestors, from the earliest Times, were always so sensible of the many ill Consequences that attended the illegal Exportation of Wool, from the several Coasts of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, that the Laws beforementioned were by them purposely made to keep our Wool Page 5. at home. They wisely foresaw, how fatal and destructive the exporting unwrought Wool might prove to these Kingdoms, if our Neighbours, by our Help, should set up Woolen Manufactories, and by living more frugally than the *English*, and having Labour and Provisions cheaper, could supply not only themselves, but other remote Nations with Woolen Goods at a lower Price; which WITHOUT OUR WOOL, MUST have been purchased of us at OUR OWN PRICE.

† Here *note*, he does not say, to prevent *absolutely* (which would have been false) but to prevent the *unlawful*, &c. which in this Place, is Nonsense, or equivocal.

* Ch. 41.
§. 4.

5. The great Decay of our Woolen Manufactories is beyond Dispute, owing to the illegal Exportation of *British* and *Irish* Wool, and Woolen Goods thoroughly manufactured in *Ireland*, to foreign Parts. Foreign Wool for the most Part, is *so coarse* and hairy, that it cannot make several Assortments without a Mixture of *British* or *Irish* Wool. The Wool of *Spain* is so exceeding fine and short, that it cannot be mixed with the coarse, harsh Wool of foreign Growth: nor can they be manufactured together, without the Wool of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* *. These are Facts so well known to the Manufacturers, that they petitioned the Parliament from all the Clothing Counties and Boroughs in *England*, Anno 1731, and every Year since, complaining of the illegal Exportation beforementioned. The Manufacturers are the first that feel the Effects of a decaying Trade, and being not only an useful, but necessary People to the State, seem therefore entitled to all reasonable Protection and Encouragement.

Page 6.

Page 7.

6. Upon a moderate Computation, one Pack of Wool made into Broad Cloth will give full Employment for one Week, to 58 Persons, who will earn 19*l.* 8*s.* 0*d.* One Pack of the long combing Wool of *Lincolnshire*, &c. made into fine Stuffs, &c. for the *Spanish* and *Portugal* Trades, will give Employment, for one Week to 158 Persons, who will earn ——— 33*l.* 12*s.* 0*d.* One Pack made into Stockings for the *Spanish* or *Portugal*, or any other Trade, will give full Employment for one Week, to 150 Persons, who will earn 55*l.* 00*s.* 0*d.*— Thus 366 Persons, on 3 Packs of Wool, will earn 108*l.* 00*s.* 0*d.* in a Week.

Page 8.

7. By the aforesaid Computation, it must follow, that as often as 50,000 Packs of Wool are clandestinely exported, so often will *Great Britain* lose 1,800,000*l.* And so often will the Number of Persons, yearly deprived of Employment, be 117,353. Besides it is a received Opinion, that 300,000 Packs of Wool are shipped yearly to foreign Nations from the several Coasts of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, through Neglect and Connivance. But if we suppose it were but half that Quantity, it must follow by the said Computation, that *Great Britain* will lose yearly 5,400,000*l.* And also the Number of Manufacturers yearly deprived of Employment, will be 352,059, besides the Diminution of the Merchants Profits, and the Hurt done to our Navigation; and although the Quantity may be more or less, yet it will bear the same Proportion, touching Profit or Loss to the Nation.

8. Let

8. Let us consider another great Damage done to this Nation by suffering this illegal Exportation. One Pack of *British* or *Irish* Wool will work up two, besides itself, of the coarse harsh Wool of foreign Growth, which otherwise would be USELESS, and lie on their Hands, in respect to their Trade with *Turkey*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, and other foreign Parts. It may perhaps seem a Paradox to some People, till rightly understood *, *that the more unwrought Wool we suffer to be exported, the MORE † we shall be overstocked with it at Home.* †

9. If the Landed Gentlemen of *Great Britain* were coolly to consider, how much it is their Interest to restrain the Wool of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* from being sold to Foreigners, they could never be prevailed upon to lend a helping Hand to prohibit the Importation of *Irish* Wool, Worsted, or Yarn; for if *Ireland* is overstocked with a Commodity, which we will not allow them to bring to *Great Britain*, we put them under a Necessity to look out elsewhere for a Market; the Consequences whereof we have experienced too long, and too much to our Cost; for by taking their Wool, Worsted, and Yarn, *we should then engross the whole Woollen Trade to OURSELVES, without a POSSIBILITY of being rivalled, and have it in our Power (as the Hollanders do by their Spices^b) to fix OUR OWN PRICE.*

Page 10.

^b Chap. 96.
§. 4. Note.

10. While *Great Britain* is so loaded with Debt, and oppressed with Taxes, no Manufactures can possibly flourish, except that of our WOOL; and had not Providence been more careful of us than we deserve, in bestow-

* 'Till rightly proved.

† This Paradox reminds me of what I remember to have seen, as an Argument against Inclosures (published in the Reign of *Edw. VI.*) viz. *The more Sheep, the dearer the Wool.*

† ' For Example, suppose 150,000 Packs of Wool (being but half the Quantity generally thought to be shipped off to Foreigners, from the several Coasts of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*) should be yearly exported unwrought; these added to 300,000 Packs of foreign Wool, produce a Manufacture of 450,000 Packs; if then 150,000 Packs were kept at Home, *Turkey*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, and other foreign Countries, would want from *Great Britain* the Manufacture of 450,000 Packs, in the room of the like Quantity furnished by neighbouring Nations, who in this Case, could have NONE of THESE manufactured Goods to send to foreign Markets; therefore, as the Demand for Goods in foreign Parts would continue to be the same, (the Question being, not what is the Quantity demanded or consumed, which is certain, but who shall furnish that Quantity) AS MUCH less as Foreigners are enabled to work up, (by the Assistance of *British* or *Irish* Wool) SO MUCH MORE must be manufactured by *Great Britain*; and consequently the first Year a Law were made, to put an effectual Stop to the unlawful Exportation of *British* and *Irish* Wool, the Quantity of Woollen Goods for foreign Trade, would be so much lessened, as it is at this Time work'd up in *France* and other foreign Parts, which would naturally increase the Demand, more than double it is at present, from *Great Britain*, and by keeping OUR WOOL at Home, they could ONLY be supplied from HENCE; and by the same Rule, our Woollen Goods must increase in their Value, in Proportion to the Demand for them; for where the WOOL is, there must be the Manufacturers, and there the Demand for the several Assortments proper for each Country.

ing

Page 14.

Page 15.

ing A PECULIAR GROWTH OF WOOL, (*of which ALL OTHER NATIONS stand in Need*) it would probably be out of the Power of human Understanding, to remedy the ruined Condition our Trade is in, which can no Way be recovered, but *by keeping our Wool at Home*. It is to be noted, that every Pack of Wool manufactured in *Ireland*, over and above their Home Consumption, is almost the same * Loss to *Great Britain*, as if manufactured in foreign Countries, and contrary to many Laws in Force. Therefore it might be proper his Majesty should be addressed, to order proper Instructions to be given to the Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, for Prevention; and in Return, to allow the Importation of *Irish* Wool, Worsted and Yarn, into *Great Britain*, free of all Duty. This by some, may be thought to hurt the Poor of our own Country, who do not consider we shall have Occasion for *many Thousand Hands* in every Branch of our Manufactures, and for a much greater Quantity of Wool than at present, *when we come to engross the whole Woolen Trade to ourselves*, [in Consequence of the Scheme following, viz. by]

A Scheme, or
Heads of a
Bill to pre-
vent the ille-
gal Exporta-
tion of Bri-
tish and Irish
Wool, &c.

11. Either a separate and distinct Commission for registering Wool both in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, or, the Officers now employed on Leather, Soap, Candles, &c. to be appointed to this Work, and that Duty taken off from those Articles; and in Lieu thereof, a small one laid upon Wool.

12. Instead of three Men of War and eight Sloops stationed on the Coasts of *Ireland*, as in *Anno 1732*, twenty-four Register Ships or Sloops of different Burthens; they, and no other Vessels, to bring the raw Wool and Yarn from *Ireland*, and carry it Coast-ways in *England*, and to carry Wool to *Guernsey, Jersey, &c.*

13. Staple Towns in *Ireland* to receive and lodge the Wool, Worsted, and Yarn of *Ireland*, convenient for the Register Ships.

Page 21.

N. B. Total Charge of the Register Ships annually,	—	l.	23,920
Of the three Men of War and eight Sloops employed at this	}		
Time on the Coasts of <i>Ireland</i> ,		—	53,560
The latter exceeding the former,	—	—	29,640

Page 24.

The Sums wanted in Lieu of those raised on Leather, Soap,	}	
Candles, &c. are		497,347

* How does this agree with what was said above? (See §. 8.)

In Great Britain is supposed to be Packs of Wool	—	—	500,000
In Ireland	—	—	300,000

Allow for Home Use in Ireland,	—	—	100,000
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Then there will remain to be wrought up in Great Britain

700,000 Packs, but say	—	—	600,000
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This, at a Medium of 1 d per lb. will be	—	—	£ 600,000
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Let the Duty be $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb. Weight, on all Wool grown in Great Britain, of the coarser Sort. Also one Penny per lb. on the second Sort; and one 1 d. $\frac{1}{2}$ on the finest and best *.

C H A P. CXXXII.

The sinking State of the Woolen Exportation Trade, humbly represented by the British Woolen Manufacturers, to the Members of Parliament, 1737.

May it please your Honours,

1. **O**BSERVING in the printed Votes, towards the latter End of the Page 3. last Sessions, without any Petition from the Traders, a Committee of the whole House, to prepare Heads of a Bill, *to prevent the Exportation of Wool unmanufactured*; and that giving us Hopes, that you will early this Sessions reassume a Consideration of such Importance: We your humble Petitioners, *British Woolen Manufacturers*, in Behalf of ourselves and Brethren throughout the Kingdom, beg Leave to represent the Loss, both to the Landed and Trading Interest, and to the King's Revenue, by the Wool exported out of both Kingdoms unmanufactured, and Woolen Goods also exported out of *Ireland*, to foreign Parts; which prevented, would be to

* I think it needless to make any particular Remarks in this Place; and therefore shall leave the Reader to form his Judgment of *The Golden Fleece* (in Truth, a *Golden Dream*) by what has gone before, and that which follows, particularly from the *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*.

N. B. This same Tract, which though without a Date, seems to have been first published Anno 1736, has since, in Substance, been re-published Anno 1745-6, under the Title of *The Danger of Great Britain and Ireland becoming Provinces of France, &c.* but without bringing Things nearer to the Standard of Truth.

VOL. II.

I

this

Chap. 151.
&c.

this Kingdom a much greater Fountain of Riches than ever the Gold and Silver Mines of the *Indies* were, or ever will be to Old and New *Spain* together.

2. 'Tis Fact, that most Countries have Wool, and some very valuable; but to none in a happy Climate hath God been so indulgent, as to *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; their Wool mostly is in its native Goodness adapted for making all Sorts of neat Woolen Goods; the Wool in other Countries being either, if fine, very short, or, if a good Staple, harsh, brittle, or coarse; they cannot make Quantities of tolerable neat Goods, without *British* or *Irish* to mix with it. Which evinceth, that keeping ours and the *Irish* Wool at home, for our own manufacturing, would at once secure the Demand of THE WHOLE WORLD on us for neat Woolen Goods, as the Dutch have for their Spices.

Page 4.

3. Your Honours are fully apprized, even by your Tenants*, that the Effects of a declining Trade are now generally felt; and no general Cause can be ascribed, but the great Decay of our Woolen Exportation Trade; and that evidently owing to the *British* and *Irish* Wool exported.

Page 5.

* See Ch. 105. 4. Those who are Agents for *France*, in this Kingdom, would persuade us that *France* wants no Wool*, their own being so good; and *France* encourages the Importation of it. The *Irish* would persuade us, they have not much more Wool than supplies their own Manufactures, (that is, for Exportation,) and the clandestine *English* Traders and their Abettors, would persuade us, that exporting our Wool is a Gain to the Kingdom; for that otherwise it would be cheaper. But though 20 per Cent. should be gained in the Price of Wool, by encouraging the exporting of it, such do not consider that the Wool exported does, on a Medium, enable the foreign Manufacturers to work up double that Quantity of their own Wool into neat *English*-like Goods, which otherwise they could not.

5. Now the general Gain to the Kingdom, by manufacturing a hundred Pounds Worth of Wool, and exporting it in Goods, is 1080*l.*† But considering

* See Chap. 176. §. 8. 40. P. S.

* It was true, that at this Time, Wool was excessively cheap*. But it was egregiously false, to say that the same was owing to a Decay of the *Woolen Exportation Trade*.

† Chap. 84. §. 23.

† This Tract pretends to speak the Sentiments of a Number of real Woolen Manufacturers; and at the same Time supposes Wool, to the Value of 100*l.* to make Goods to the Amount of 1080*l.* which is near three Times more than is commonly accounted of, upon an Average. The *British Merchant* reckons the Manufacture, on a Medium, at but four Times the Price of the Material. And I observe, that in the Arguments on this Head, at the Bar of the House of Lords, on Occasion of the Bill for prohibiting the Exportation of Woolen Manufacture from *Ireland*

considering that each Pack exported, is the Occasion of our losing the Manufacture and Sale of three Packs; the Loss by exporting a hundred Pounds Worth of Wool, is to lose the gaining of 3140 l. Page 7.

6. We cannot agree with the Author of the *Golden Fleece*^f, that the Quantity of Wool yearly grown in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, is so much as 800,000 Packs; but we think that in *Great Britain* there is no more than 430,000 Packs: In *Ireland* 143,333 Packs; that from the former 40,000, and from the latter, 20,000 Packs are yearly exported unmanufactured; the general Loss whereby to the Kingdom, we compute at 11,304,000 l. This is a real Truth, unless it can be proved, that our Wool does not work up, on a Medium, double its Quantity abroad, or if it does we should not supply those Markets, if the foreign Manufacturers did not; or if so much Wool is not exported †. fCh. 131.
§. 13.

7. But if our loss was but barely 3,096,000 l. the single Value of the Loss in 60,000 Packs of Wool exported, even, that is considerable enough to deserve the Notice of the Nation. Thus as we have with great Faithfulness laid before your Honours the Greatness of our Loss, we beg Leave to offer what we think would be an effectual Means to prevent exporting, not only ours, but the *Irish* Wool.

8. Your Honours will observe, that the many different Proposals. which have of late Years been made, do all center in a Register. And indeed that would render the Exportation of it impossible, without discovering the Quantity, and by whom. Yet the Method of executing such a Registry by his Majesty's Officers, is pleasing neither to the Landed nor Trading Interest. But executing a general Register by the Traders themselves, would be pleasing to all, as it would be done in a friendly manner. Page 9.

9. And therefore we pray, ' That a Power may be granted to the Merchants and Traders, and Dealers in Woolen Goods, Wool, Woolen Yarn, and Skins with the Wool on, and to all Manufacturers thereof, and Tradesmen, whose Trades depend thereupon, in *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*, Page 10.

Ireland to foreign Parts, that Wool in *Ireland*, Value 12 s. made a Piece of Serge of 1 l. 7 s. 11 d. which is but a little more than twice the Value of the Wool; and that the like Piece of Serge made from *English* Wool (in *England*) of 18 s. amounted to but 1 l. 19 s. 3 d. which also is but a little more than twice the prime Cost of the Wool. Again, we are informed from *Exeter* (See *British Merchant*, vol. 2. pag. 16—19) that *Perpets*, *Worsted* Chain, are valued at 2 s. a Pound, and *Stuffs* all *Worsted*, but at 3 s. on a Medium, at the Custom-House.

† These Gentlemen forget to put another possible Case, viz. whether Foreigners, ceasing to have the Quantity of our Wool here supposed, could not furnish themselves by some other Means, of Growth or Importation.

‘ to become one incorporated Company *, invested with a Power to put
 ‘ all the Laws in Execution, against exporting Wool out of *Great Britain*
 ‘ and *Ireland*, and Woolen Goods also out of *Ireland* to foreign Parts; and
 ‘ to Register all Wool in each Kingdom, and all grown yearly, &c. in
 ‘ such Manner, and by such Servants, as to the said Company shall be most
 ‘ agreeable to Trade in each Kingdom. And that the Members of the
 ‘ said Company in *Great Britain*, may have Power to make *By-Laws* for
 ‘ both Kingdoms, for executing such Power, and to give to *Ireland*
 ‘ such Encouragement, as to her Wool and Yarn, as will be for advancing
 ‘ the Woolen Exportation Trade, and to raise the needful Charges of *both*
 ‘ Kingdoms, in *Great Britain*, from and within themselves, by a Quarter-
 ‘ age, or otherwise, as may be agreed: *Ireland* to be at *no Charge*. And
 ‘ that all Postage be free; that the civil Magistrare may be assisting, as
 ‘ Need may require; and that the present Duty on Irish Woolen Yarn im-
 ‘ ported, may be taken off.’

C H A P. CXXXIII.

Debates in Parliament †,

1. **B**Efore the Peace of *Utrecht*, we had no Rival in the *Woolen Manu-
 facture Trade* but the *Dutch* ‡; and over them we have many na-
 tural Advantages, both as to our Situation, the Goodness of our Ports,
 and the principal constituent Materials of that Manufacture; all of which
 they are obliged to furnish themselves with at second Hand ||.

2. To

* *Monstrum horrendum ingens, cui lumen ademptum!*

† The Subject of this Debate was concerning a proposed Deduction of the Interest of the National Debt, *i. e.* of the redeemable Funds. But I have here taken only so much of the Argument as relates to the Woolen Trade of *England*. As it is well known, who it was that bore a principal Part in this Debate, on one Side of the Question especially; so it is not difficult to guess, to whom these Sentiments belong. If they are not historically correct, 'tis only to be imputed to his taking this Affair too much upon Trust, according to common Belief, and that general Corruption of Truth, which has prevailed in the Case of this, more than, I almost think, on any other Subject whatsoever.

‡ Some *Turkey* Merchants also know ‘ their [*the French*] *Garçassone* Cloths find good Prices
 Ch. 56. §. ‘ and many Buyers in the *Levant*.’ N. B. *This was an Observation so long before the Peace of*
 26. *Utrecht as the Year 1677.* See also (Ch. 59. §. 8. Chap. 99. §. 2. Chap. 101. §. 3. Chap. 102.
 §. 5. Note. §. 7. Note. Chap. 103. §. 5. Note. §. 7. Chap. 108. §. 2.)

|| WOOL I suppose to be principally meant here; which, as the *English* Manufacturers are
 seldom the Growers thereof, they, strictly speaking, purchase as much at second Hand, as the
 Woolen Manufacturers of any other Country do. But this is a Figure of Speech, denoting *another*

2. To this I shall add, that when the Woolen Manufacture was first chiefly established in *England* (which was in the long and happy Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*) the Interest of Money was pretty much the same in both Countries; and the *Dutch* were engaged in a bloody and dangerous War, &c. So that their People had not much Time to think of improving any Sort of *Manufacture*. By these Means we got ourselves rivetted in the Possession of all the principal Marts for Woolen Manufacture both in *Asia* and *Europe*; and that Possession was, in good Measure, kept till the Beginning of the last War with *France* and *Spain*, when we were so wise as to prohibit Trade with both. During that long Period, the People of *Turkey*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, and even in *France* † too, till the Revolution, became so accustomed to the wearing of *English* Cloths and Stuffs, that it was not easy to make them change their Merchant.

3. Thus by getting Possession of the Trade, and keeping that Possession, we acquired an Advantage which could not easily nor speedily be taken from us; and this acquired Advantage is, I am afraid, the chief Support of our present Exportation. But in a long Course of Time we may entirely lose this Advantage; and we are in the more Danger, because we have now got a Rival in the *Woolen Manufacture Trade* much more formidable than the *Dutch*, and of much more Danger and Consequence.

4. Before our late happy Revolution, they had but few Manufacturers of Woolen Cloth in *France*; and such as they had were of the coarsest Sort; so that they were furnished with all their fine Cloths either from *Holland* or *England*; but after the Revolution, we found ourselves, it seems, under a Necessity of prohibiting all Manner of Trade and Intercourse with that Kingdom. This prevented its being in their Power to have any Woolen Manufacture directly from *England*, which laid them under a Necessity, and at the same Time furnished them with the Means of improving what they had of their own; so that before the second War broke out, they had come some Length in the Manufacture of Woolen Cloths, especially Stuffs or Camblets; and by our prohibiting Trade with *Spain* as well as them at the Beginning of that War, we furnished them not only with a new Opportunity of improving their Woolen Manufacture, but likewise with an Opportunity of introducing it by Degrees into the Kingdom of *Spain*;

the Difference, which some Persons don't chuse to mention in so many plain Words. (See Chap. 47. §. 3.)

† See Chap. 59. §. 7.

and

and the Peace of *Utrecht* confirmed their Manufacture in the Advantage it had reaped in the War.

5. Ever since that Time, they have enjoyed almost an uninterrupted State of Tranquility; during which Time, it must be confessed, they have made the best Use of the Benefits we bestowed upon them; for they have now brought their Woolen Manufacture to such Perfection, that they make superfine Woolen Cloths almost as fine and as good as we can do, and sell them much cheaper; by which means they very much interfere with us in *Turkey* as well as *Spain*; in both which Places they as yet meet with some Difficulty, by Reason of the Attachment the People have in general to the Manufactures of this Kingdom; but that Attachment will at last wear off, and then it will be out of our Power to preserve any Share of the Trade, unless we can sell all Sorts of Woolen Manufacture as cheap as the *French* or any other Nation can do.

6. Now with respect to the Rivalship in this Trade between the *French* and us, it is very different from that between us and the *Dutch*. The Situation of the *French* is rather more convenient for that Trade than ours; and their Ports are as good; then as to the Materials, the only Advantage we have over them consists in our Wool*; but they lye so conveniently for stealing it away from us, that 'tis hardly possible to prevent it; and as to *Spanish* Wool, which is the chief Material in the Manufacture of all superfine Cloths, they lye more conveniently for having it, and may have it at a cheaper Rate than we can. From all which I must conclude, the chief Advantage we now enjoy in this Manufacture, is the superior Skill, Dexterity, and Numbers of our Workmen, and the old Attachment to the Woolen Manufactures of this Kingdom; something of which still remains in *Turkey*, *Spain*, and *Portugal*; but this will wear off by Degrees, if we cannot sell as cheap as any other Nation; and the *French* Workmen will be

* And wherein does this Advantage consist, which the *English* have from *their* Wool? Have not the *French* Wool of their own? Yes, they have; but it is not so good, generally speaking, as *English* Wool. Well! but cannot the *French* be accommodated elsewhere with Wool as good as the *English*? Yes! for the Purpose of making Cloth especially, with much better, from *Portugal* and *Spain*. What then can be the Advantage to the *English* in respect of their Wool? Why, 'tis cheaper than any other Wool of equal Goodness. What! considerably cheaper than other Wool, beyond the Difference of Freight and Factorage? O yes, considerably, BECAUSE (by the Law) *English* Wool can be purchased by *English* Persons ONLY. Why then it is not the *French* who steal our Wool from us; but it is we, who steal it to them, in order to have a Market Price for it (as will be demonstrated). But tho' the *French* could not steal it from *England*, or rather, tho' the *English* could not steal it into *France*; yet, whether this Gentleman knew so much or not, the *British* Merchant hath assured his Countrymen, that the *French* cannot want Wool for ANY KIND OF WORK; for ANY PART OF THE WOOLEN MANUFACTURE.

i Ch. 105.
§. 12, 14.

every

every Day improving and increasing. These are our Circumstances, and they shew what bad Effects our present State of high Interest may have upon our foreign Trade and home Manufacturers.

In Answer to this it was said,

7. The French have not any natural Advantage in Trade over us, worth mentioning, but that of the frugal and penurious Temper of the People especially their Labourers and Manufacturers. For the Freight of a Ship from any Port in *England* to *Spain* or *Turkey*, is very near as cheap as from any Port of *France*; at least, the Difference can have no Influence upon a rich Cargo; and if it could, the Expence of their carrying their Goods to their Ports, for Export, is generally much higher in *France* than in *England*; which will more than atone for any Difference there may be in Freight: And for the same Reason, a Quantity of *Spanish* Wool may always come cheaper to the Manufacturer in *England*, than the same Quantity can come to the Manufacturer in *France*. But then, as to the Advantages we have over them, they are innumerable, and the single one, of OUR WOOL, is such a one, as we may, by proper Care and Diligence, make insurmountable. For the more careful and diligent we are to prevent its Exportation *, the greater the Risk of exporting it will be; and the greater the Risk, the higher its Price will be in *France*, so that at last, we may raise its Price so high as to make it impossible for their Manufacturers to work it up with Advantage.

Here it was replied,

8. I am surprized to hear it said, we can carry on any Trade in the Mediterranean, so cheap, or so easily, as the French can do at their Ports of *Marseilles* and *Thoulon*; or that we may carry on a Trade with *Portugal*, or any Part of *Spain* without the *Streights*, so cheap as the French can do from their Ports on the Bay of *Biscay*. Then as to our Wool, I wish with all my Heart, we could render the Exportation of it impracticable; but I believe the only effectual Way of doing so is, to enable our Manufacturers and Merchants to work it up at home, and sell it so wrought up in foreign Markets, as cheap as such Manufactures can be sold by any of our foreign

* The more it is confined to be purchased by *English* Manufacturers only, the more will they be able to beat down its Price in the Markets of *England*; consequently, the greater will be the Temptation to carry it abroad clandestinely; and as Sir *Josiah Child* has rightly observed * the Effect will be accordingly. So that this is a Remedy, like that of Drinking, for a Dropsy. Ch. 48.
§. 8.
Neighbours

Neighbours *; for if we should once lose the Sale of such Manufactures at foreign Markets, we cannot make Use of all our Wool in working up for home Consumption; and if we cannot work it up at home, it will, like *Spanish Gold and Silver*, find its Way out, in Spite of the several Laws, and the greatest Care we can take for preventing it. Our Laws will then serve only for running down the Price upon the Farmer; for as he *must* sell; if he cannot find a Buyer at home, he must take what Price he *can* get from the Smugling Exporter, who in that Case, will be sure to make the Farmer pay for the Risk he runs in exporting.

C H A P. CXXXIV.

*Reflections and Considerations, occasioned by the Petition presented to the Honourable House of Commons, for taking off the Drawback on foreign Linens; &c. 1738 *.*

1. **T**HE Petition sets forth, ' That the Manufacturers of Linen now labour under several Discouragements, but more particularly on
' Account of the Drawbacks allowed on Exportation of foreign Linens,
' Threads, and Tapes; by Means whereof considerable Quantities have been,
' and are still sent to Parts beyond the Seas, to the great Hinderance of the
' Consumption of our own Produce and Manufactures, and therefore praying, &c'.

2. Except in the Article of Linen, I cannot say that the *British* Subjects in

* This Gentleman has touched upon the right Scent, for rendering the *Exportation of Wool* impracticable——But for Want, either of pursuing the Thought, or of explaining himself sufficiently, he has left the Matter just where it was.

Had he said, ' to enable our Manufacturers to give AS MUCH for the Wool of Great Britain and Ireland, as foreign Manufacturers will give for the same, or for Wools of equal Goodness; and to enable our Merchants to sell it, when wrought up, in foreign Markets, as cheap as such Manufactures can be sold by any of our foreign Neighbours,' he would have spoke clearly and intelligibly, and fully to the Purpose.——But, if by ' enabling our Manufacturers and Merchants to work it up at home, and sell it so wrought up in foreign Markets as cheap, &c.' he meant that this was to be effected by Means of having the Wool any thing considerably cheaper; in that Case, such comparative Cheapness would have the very same Effect, which he himself mentions, from ' losing the Sale of such Manufactures at foreign Markets.' A Share of the Wool would in Course (like *Spanish Gold and Silver*) find its Way out to the better Market.

* I meddle not with this Trade, and what further I meet with wrote upon the same Occasion, but as the Argument, some Way or other, respects the *Woolen Trade*.

America,

America, are under any Temptation to deal with Foreigners for Goods or Manufactures of any Kind; otherwise, like the rest of Mankind, they would buy at the cheapest Hand, and if it was worth their while, manufacture more than they do. And if the Drawback was wholly taken off, so that they were to pay 14 *per Cent.* more than they do for Linen, would it not be in Effect, a Bounty of 14 *per Cent.* for Encouragement of their own Manufacture *?

3. But there is a more weighty Consideration still behind; and that is, Page 24. supposing us able, in Time to come, to manufacture Linen sufficient for our own Consumption, *what will become of the Woollen Manufactures*, which those Countries took from us, from whence we were supplied with foreign Linens †? If they take off our Woolens, with other Product and Manufactures, as of *Sheffield* and *Birmingham*, and the Goods we import from *India*, to as great a Value, as we take from them, which I really believe they do, and greater; can we have the least Reason to desire a Change in so profitable a Branch of Commerce?

C H A P. CXXXV.

The Case of the British and Irish Manufacture of Linen, Threads and Tapes fairly stated, and all the Objections against the Encouragement proposed to be given to that Manufacture, fully answered,

In a Letter, 1738.

1. **T**HE chief Methods of gaining Riches are, Agriculture, Fishery, Manufacture; and of these, Manufacture is the most advantageous to a Nation, because employing and maintaining most; and of all Sorts

* ‘ And to shew that this is no chimerical Imagination; upon Inquiry, it will be found, that both coarse and fine Linen are manufactured there already.

† ‘ Are they not as capable of manufacturing WOOLEN, as we are of Linen? Or can we oblige them to take none any where else, or prohibit their manufacturing for themselves? Or can we be sure that in Resentment they may not impose a Duty on our Manufactures, equal to what we lay upon them, or totally refuse to make Use of them, as *Russia* did not long ago? If we can do neither of the first, nor be sure of the last, why must we lose or destroy so considerable a Branch of our *Woollen* Manufacture, not to mention many others, for the bare Chance of raising and encouraging another Manufacture, which neither by Nature, or Art, we are so capable of excelling our Neighbours in?’

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of

Russia refused to make Use of English Woollen Manufacture.

of Manufacture, Linen and Woolen are, for the same Reason, most beneficial, and because they are most necessary in Life. Which of these two ought to have the Preference, I shall not determine. Nevertheless, every Nation ought to turn their Lands and Hands chiefly to the Produce of that which employs the greatest Number of Poor, and may be raised to the highest Value by Manufacture. According to this Rule, let us examine this Affair, upon the Foot of the Calculations of the accurate and ingenious *Arthur Dobbs*, Esq; in his *Essay on the Trade and Improvement of Ireland*, who makes the Profits from Wool completely manufactured, amount to near 6l. per Acre, but from Hemp and Flax, to 27 and 28 l. hence it is easy to judge which deserves most to meet with publick Encouragement.

2. In a Country, where any Manufacture has been long established, the Workmen are so dexterous and numerous, that they can make cheapest and best. They have the Name, and common Opinion; established Custom and Correspondence of Dealers is on their Side; which makes it very difficult for any neighbouring Country to set up such a Manufacture even for home Consumption. From hence we must be convinced, that when any Nation has a Mind to set up a Manufacture, which a neighbouring Nation is in Possession of, they must particularly encourage it, 1. By Bounties; 2. by loading *its Rival*, the foreign Manufacture, with Duties; and 3. by making it the Fashion to wear it.

3. Now though no actual Encouragement has been given in this Case, yet the People of *England* have taken Advantage of the high Duties our Necessities have obliged us to lay upon foreign Linen imported and consumed here at home, to push the Linen Manufacture further than is commonly imagined, as the following Piece of political Arithmetick * will pro-

* ' Let us imagine 14 Millions of People in the three Kingdoms and the ' Plantations; that they consume annually, at 5 Ells or 6 Yards $\frac{1}{2}$ per ' Head		87,500,000 Yds.
' By the Custom-House Books, our Importation from foreign Parts, on a ' Medium, from 1728 to 1734, is		32,000,000 Yds.
' The Consumption in <i>Scotland</i> probably, is		12,500,000
' Exportation thence, to my best Information		4,000,000
' Consumption in <i>Ireland</i> , probably		12,500,000
' Exportation thence, on a Medium, to <i>England</i> , according to Custom- ' House Accounts		5,000,000
	Total	66,000,000
' Remains of the whole Consumption; every Yard of which must be made ' in <i>England</i>		21,500,000

bably shew. And I think it beyond all Question, that a greater Quantity of Linen is manufactured in *England*, than either in *Scotland* or *Ireland*. 'Tis true, the *English* Manufacture of that Commodity is not publickly known, because a great Share of it is made in private Families for their own Use, or made and consumed in our Country Towns and Villages, and that Part of it which comes to *London*, is brought hither by Land-Carriage, so that it is seldom heard of but among our Manufacturers and Dealers in Linen.

4. It has been observed, that Duties on foreign Linens, like other Duties, were only imposed for the Support of Government, not with a View of encouraging the Manufacture at home; for which Reason, Drawbacks were allowed upon foreign Linens transported to our Plantations, as to any other Parts. But if the Affair had been well considered, though upon the Foot of common Policy, of encouraging Trade and Navigation, the Drawback of all the Duty should have took Place, in Case of Re-exportation to foreign independent Countries; yet to our Plantations, the whole Duty should have remained, as if for home Consumption; and that by Way of Encouragement to our own *home Manufactures of Linen*. But we did neither, *i. e.* we neither took it all off from independent Countries, nor laid it all on, to the Plantations; so by the former hurt our Navigation Trade, by the latter, our own Manufacture. The Effects are evident, from the small Quantity of foreign Linens we export, except to our Plantations; and the vast Quantity of coarse foreign Linens exported to our Plantations, shew how prejudicial that Export is to our *home Manufacture*.

5. 'Tis said with regard to *Germany*, we take their Linens, they take our Woolen and other Manufactures, particularly of Iron, some of the Produce of our Plantations, and *East India* Goods, to an equal or a greater Value. As to Woolen Manufactures, they have certainly set up several of their own in many Parts of *Germany*, particularly in *Prussia*, and which interferes with our *Woolen Trade* to *Russia*. Even at *Altena*, which though under the Dominion of *Denmark*, may be called one of the Suburbs of *Hamburg*; they have lately set up a Woolen Manufacture, which prospers exceedingly, and is greatly carested and encouraged by the whole Neighbourhood. Thus our Trade to *Germany* may soon become a losing Trade to *England*, if it is not so already.

6. But to pretend that any the greatest Advantage by Commerce with any foreign Country, should make us neglect to improve our own Produce and Manufacture, is most ridiculous. Upon such Principles, we should never

have had any Sugar, or Tobacco Plantations ; because *Spain* and *Portugal*, where we had a beneficial Trade, and especially for Woolens, furnished us with those Commodities. But Queen *Elizabeth* judged it better, and settled Colonies in *America*. *Sweden* and *Denmark* are both allowed to be great Gainers by their Trade with *Britain* ; yet both have lately begun to rival us in the *East-India* Trade ; and the latter has lately begun to rival us in our *Woolen Manufacture*.

7. But say these Gentlemen, if you take no Linen from *Germany*, they can take none of your Goods, because they will have nothing to give you in return. They might not, perhaps, be able to purchase so many of the *Superfluities* ; but what we furnish them with, are chiefly the *Necessaries* or *Conveniencies* of Life. They would still be able to purchase *Yorkshire Drabs*, *Norwich Stuffs*, *Birmingham* and *Sheffield Wares*, &c. It is more than probable, that if we did not take a Yard of Linen from *Germany*, they would take from us as much as they do at present. Thus the frightful Apprehension, of diminishing our Woolen Manufacture, must entirely vanish. They will never want something to give us in return for our Woolen Manufactures. Our only Danger is, lest they should be sufficiently enriched by selling us Linen, to set up Woolen Manufactures ; which, when they are, they will certainly do, and then lay high Duties upon, or prohibit the Importation of our Woolen Manufactures, and leave us to do as we *will*, or *can*, in the Article of Linen.

8. As to the Objection, ‘ That foreign States may hereby be provoked to lay high Duties, and perhaps Prohibitions upon the Manufactures of this Kingdom.’ As to those of them, which any of our Neighbours can make at home, they have already done this ; nor can we blame them. But for what they cannot, that would be only laying a Tax upon their own People. Besides, they would have no more Reason to resent our taxing foreign Linen consumed in our Plantations, than those consumed in *Great Britain*.

9. I cannot quit this Argument, without desiring you to recollect the great Incroachments that have been made, of late Years, upon our *Woolen Manufactures*. The *French* not only supply themselves, but send large Quantities to *Spain* and *Turkey*. The *Prussians* not only supply themselves, but send large Quantities to *Russia*, and several Parts in the *North-Germany*. The *Danes*, as I have already mentioned, are taking all the Measures they can think of, for setting up Woolen Manufactures. And even in *Flanders*,
since

since that Country came into the Hands of the Emperor, they have been, and are still at vast Pains to re-establish the Woolen Manufacture, and have lately resolved to cloath their Army with the Woolen Manufactures of their own Country only. All these Nations formerly made Use of very little else but the *Woolen Manufactures of England*; therefore the Consumption of our *Woolen Manufactures* in *Asia* and *Europe*, must certainly have decreased within these forty or fifty Years. And this Decrease would have been more severely felt, if it had not been for the Increase of our Plantations abroad, and our *Linen Manufactures* at home. We have therefore great Reason to take every Measure we can think of, for encouraging home Manufactures of every Kind*.

* The Sentiments of another Writer on this Head, when the Subject was again brought upon the Tapis in 1740, run thus:

‘ Though no Man living wishes more warmly the Improvement of the *Scotch* and *Irish* Linen than I do, yet I cannot agree that we should sacrifice our whole Trade to *Hamburg*, and other Parts of *Germany*, in Complaisance to our Brethren of the *North* and *West*; who in such Cases would not fail to make *England* pay what Rates they pleased for this Manufacture. But this would be the least Evil attending such a Prohibition of *German* Linen, as was intended by the Bill. If we deal with the Inhabitants of *Silesia*, *Saxony*, *Bohemia*, and *Poland*, (whence alone we have all the Linens called *German* Linen) we must be contented to barter our Woolen and other Manufactures, our *East-India* Commodities, and the Growth of our Colonies for their Linens; for they have neither Bullion nor other Commodities; and either we must give up the whole Trade, or make our Returns in such Goods as that extended Country affords.’

I desire to remark here, as follows, first, that according to the Opinion of this Gentleman, (which accords with the Sentiments of many others, and wherein there is undoubtedly some Truth) when the Parliament, in order to suppress the Trade in Woolen Manufacture from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, gave the People of that Kingdom such ample Encouragement in the Linen; whatever Benefit may have accrued to both Kingdoms, from such *Irish* Linen Trade particularly; yet was there no clear Gain by it, to the Woolen Trade of *England*.

Further, if Trade in *Poland*, for Instance, is best carried on by Barter;^a and for WOOL, one principal Commodity there; then might it be an Advantage to import *POLONIA* WOOLS. This was^a Ch. 94. §. 8. done formerly^b. But since our own, in Consequence of a Monopoly, occasioned by the Prohibition, have been artificially very much cheaper, that Trade hath ceased; consequently, we may imagine, our^b Ch. 36. Exports to *Poland* have for that Reason become less than otherwise they would be. §. 2. Note.

C H A P. CXXXVI.

*An Essay on Riots, &c. * 1739.*

1. **T**HE Riot of the poor Weavers and other Woolen Manufacturers in *Wilts*, is said to have been occasioned by Oppression, in various Shapes, practised towards them by *some Clothiers*.——The Badness, or rather Decay of the Woolen Trade, acknowledged by all, and occasioned by the Rivalship of *France* and other neighbour Nations, must needs be attended with fatal Effects to Masters as well as Workmen:

2. The Progress of our Neighbours in that Trade, is said to be owing to our *Run Wool*, and to their underselling our Merchants at foreign Markets. Be these Things as they will, they are no Justification of the late Riot, and I could wish that a mixed Commission might be appointed, consisting of *Gentlemen* and *Clothiers* of the *best Character* that can be picked out in the Country, to examine impartially into the Causes of the late Riot, as — 1. *If any Combinations have been entered into, to lower the Price of Weaving, Spinning, &c. and by whom?*——2. *If any Masters have forced the poor Manufacturers to take Truck, and at what Prices?*——3. *If any Masters have obliged their Work People to buy Bread, &c. at any particular Shops, and how they have been served?*——4. *If some particular Manufacturers do not give extravagant Rents for their Tenements, &c. and if they are not under Compulsion from their Masters in that Article?*——5. *Who were the Heads of the late Riot? what Damage is done? and what Sums may be raised through the Country by the Statutes against Truck or Combinations, towards paying the Damages?*

3. I cannot conclude without wishing some Publick-spirited Person well skilled in all the different Branches of a *Clothier's Trade*, would publish a

* In the Month of *December* 1738, was a Riot in *Wiltshire*, in which the Goods of Mr. *Culthorst* and other *Clothiers*, were destroyed, &c. and their Dwelling-houses attempted to be pulled down, for which Fact, three Persons, viz. a Weaver, a Sheerman, and a Bricklayer, were executed at *Sarum*.

• Chap. 137. §. 5. N. B. It seems by what follows •, that the Master Clothiers had lately fallen the Rate of their Workmens Wages; and that this was looked upon as having furnished a Pretence for the Riot.

And what was the Pretence for falling Wages at this Time? a supposed Want of Trade for Woolen Goods. And this, though generally believed about that Time (we have learned since) could not be the Case, in Regard to the Woolen Exportation Trade; forasmuch, as the *English* Woolen Exports, from *Christmas* 1737, to *Christmas* 1738, were remarkably great. (See Chap. 176. P. S.)

short

short Essay, to shew the Prices now commonly given by our *ready Money* Clothiers to their several Sorts of Work People ; that so the Publick may judge what *clear Profit* a Clothier has. My Reason for it is, that as Money is sunk to three *per Cent.* Interest with many People, the Profits might appear so considerable, as would probably prevail on some to employ their Money in that. No body can think the *Mystery of Cloth-working inscrutable*, when he sees how many People practise it, who never served a regular Apprenticeship to it. And one that has Money of his own in his Pocket, may make a *better Master*, and get as much, as those who make Cloth on other People's Stocks *.

C H A P. CXXXVII.

Remarks on the Essay on the Weavers Riot, &c. 1739.

1. **O**NE Cause of these Riots is said to be, Oppression of the Poor by their rich Masters. 1. *By entering into Combinations to lower Wages.* 2. *Not paying their Wages.* 3. *Or else paying them in Truck, by Goods at an advanced Price.* As to the *first* and *second* of these, I must declare myself an absolute Stranger to any such Methods of Practice.

2. But, that the Workmen are able in a dull Season of Trade, &c. when Work is scarce, &c. to make their Wages as comfortable, as in a quick Time of Trade, when their Hands are full, is not to be supposed ; for in the Clothing Trade, as in other Employments, the Value of Labour has its Ups and Downs, according to the Demand for it. If the Necessity of the Times require it, and the Master advertises his Servants that he can give but 14 *d.* instead of 15 or 16 *d. per Yard*, must this be called Oppression ? when at the same Time, the Workman is at full Liberty to make the most of his Labour elsewhere ? Again, when the Workman has finished his Piece of Work, if the Master pays him his agreed Price, what Ground of Complaint has the Workman ? If the Master refuses, the Remedy is easy, by Recourse to a Magistrate.—But if on the contrary, the Workman has ill wrought that

* In this Chapter are many Things insinuated to the Disadvantage of the Master Clothiers. In the next, we shall see how far the Charge is denied, and in what Instances confessed, and how vindicated, or excused.

Piece, or feloniously detained from the Master any Part of his Stuff, every Master has a Right to exact Reparation, to be settled by a Magistrate, unless (as is frequently the Case) the Workman (rather than be exposed) chuses to agree the Damage with the Master at a small Allowance. But will this be called *defrauding, or oppressing the Servants*? So far from it, that I am apt to believe, the Lenity shewn to Workmen, on these Occasions, has been a great Cause of the several Riots and Insults made upon them of late Years; and that if the Clothiers, instead of this false Pity shewn, had put the Laws in Execution against Felony, we had e're now got rid of the greatest Number of those idle, immoral Wretches, that generally turn out the Ring-Leaders of such Assemblies.

3. As to the honest and industrious Part of our Work-People, no doubt, the Decay of Trade must affect them. And it is well known, the Impoverishment of many reputable Masters is to be ascribed to their keeping on Business, in Tenderneſs to the Poor, without any View but their Employment and Service. But the Clothiers are not obliged to ruin themselves, as has been the Misfortune of a great many within these few Years.

4. Some Branches of our Woolen Fabrick are quite lost; others going along with our Wool. And indeed there seem to be but two Remedies; the one is, securing our Wool from falling into our Rivals Hands; and the other, by lowering the Prices of our Workmanship. If the Clothiers apply for the former, they are answered; that will sink the Price of Wool, disable Tenants from paying Rents, &c. And if a Reduction in the Price of Labour is attempted, we are charged by our Author with Injustice, and are said hereby to be driving the Poor on to this riotous Method of revenging themselves upon their Masters for their Oppressions, &c.

5. But one Thing I am led here to observe, which must affect the Poor much more than the Penny *per* Yard abated, and contribute more to the late Disorders, *viz.* That at the Time of the rising, there was not less than 60 Looms standing still, for want of Employment, in that Neighbourhood. And without some Regard to be had for the Preservation of our *foreign* Trade, I despair of seeing our Hands better filled.

6. As to the clear Profits of the Clothier, if the Author has Courage enough to make the Purchase, I will insure him, the neat Produce on four Fifths of the Woolen Goods that have been made for seven Years past in the three Western Counties of *Wilts, Somerset, and Gloucester*, for three *per Cent. per Ann.* on the Stock employed in those Trades. Nay, I will go farther,

and engage to deliver him several hundred thousand Pounds worth of Woolen Goods at 5 *per Cent.* less than Prime Cost.

7. As to the Article of *Trucking*, I own it to be a Practice not only illegal, but scandalous; yet it is attended with worse Consequences by far to the Fair-Trader, than to the Workman that complies with it, who as he knows before-hand the Disadvantages thereof, so he knows how to suit his Workmanship thereto. I am very glad to hear that a large Body of Clothiers are so heartily disposed and engaged to put a Stop to *Truck*, but am afraid the Work People are but too well reconciled to the Payments of their *Trucking*, or they would have accepted the Offer * made them. But were the Author to consider this in his own Light, as an Oppression, yet it's stupid to affirm it the Cause of the Riot at *Melksham*; seeing neither Mr. *Colthurst*, nor any Gentleman upon whom Depredations were committed, ever made any other Payments, that ever I could learn, than in Money; and if this was the Cause of Complaints, why was any other struck at but Delinquents?

C H A P. CXXXVIII.

The Case between the Clothiers and Weavers, 1739.

1. **I**N Towns where the Woolen Manufacture is carried on, proper Employment is to be found for every Sort of People. In these Parts, Wages are much greater, and Employment more constant, than in most other. The following is no mean Proof of the high Wages as well as Luxury of the Manufacturers. In the Town of *Trowbridge*, where the Inhabitants have been computed at about 3000 Men, Women, and Children, there are near 2000 Hogheads of strong Beer drank in a Year, as appears by the Excise-Books; and yet we have no great Market, but for Flesh and Greens and Roots, and no great Thorough-fare from or to any Place. To this we may add thirty or forty Gin-houses. Their high Wages furnish them with the Means of Debauching. The only Way to make the Poor sober, industrious, &c. is to take away those Means, and that of the Beggars Song, *The Parish is bound to find us, &c.*

* What that Offer was, does not appear.

2. [*To shew that there is Room for the lowering of Wages.*] A Weaver and his Family may subsist as well as the Poor do in many Counties in *England*, by only working one Half of his Time. A constant Labourer in Husbandry, and his Family, don't earn above Half the Money as a Weaver. But the Parsimony and Sobriety of the former keeps him and his in much the better Plight. You shall see far better Accommodations in his House than in the Manufacturers, although the latter is so much better paid for his Labour.

3. Let us see how far the Clothier may fall the Price of Labour, without incurring the Odium of Oppression. Our Laws are so tender of the Poor, that where a Man cannot maintain himself, the Parish must. This Law has been condemned by several, as the Bane of Manufactory. The *Dutch* have their Poor under another Regulation, and yet there is scarce a Beggar to be seen. The Poor never want Relief or Work, as their Case requires. They take Care to afford Employment, and don't so much Regard the Cheapness of Provisions, well knowing that Hunger and Cold will make People work, in order to eat, &c. *Flanders*, and *Hamburg*, pursue the same Measures for suppressing Idleness and Beggary.

4. How different is the Policy of the *Dutch* from the Opinion of the *Author of the Essay on Riots*. *Dutch Policy* lades all the Necessaries of Life, to make the Poor diligent and sober. Our Politician is for taking off all Taxes which affect the Poor, though they have already the Means of Luxury and Idleness. One Argument against lowering the Wages of the Weavers, &c. is built on a Presumption, *That no Nation will ever arrive at the same Perfection in manufacturing Cloth*, as ourselves; and therefore we shall always have a Market, tho' other Countries manufacture and sell much cheaper. This appears to me an egregious Piece of Vanity! We had our Skill from the *Louvainers*, &c. and why they and the *French* should be for ever incapable of arriving at the same Perfection as ourselves, must appear to every thinking Man an inscrutable Mystery.

5. A Gentleman who now resides at an *English* Factory at *Lisbon*, told me, that their House had consigned to it as good fine *French* Cloth made of *Spanish* Wool, for 13s. per Yard, as they could buy from *England* for 15 or 16s. That the *Portuguese* preferred the first, on Account of its Cheapness*; wherefore they were obliged to import the *French* on *English* Bottoms,

* Admitting, what is here alledged, to be true in some Degree; nevertheless observe, tho' it

Bottoms*, and sell it as *English*, in order to have somewhat to do. Thus* See Ch. 184.
the *French*, by Dint of low Wages, are running away with our Manufac- §. 22, 23.
tures, while we are buoying up ourselves with vain Boasts and empty Ima- Note.
ginations, that we out-trade and out-sell every one.

6. Another Argument against lowering of Wages, is, that it would sink the Goodness of Manufactures, by obliging the Poor to *work quicker and slighter*. Answ. *The best Goods are made in the worst Times*. When Employment is scarce, every Manufacturer endeavours after Perfection in his particular Branch, for Fear of being dismissed. In Dearness of Provisions it is just the same. If Wheat sells for 10 or 12 s. a Bushel, the Manufacturers are obliged to work more, and debauch less.

7. Another Argument against lowering Wages, is, that the Poor hereby would be incapable to make such great Consumption in Provisions; which would be an Injury to the Farmer. But this is a Mistake, the Poor in the manufacturing Counties will never work any more Time in general, than is necessary just to live and support their weekly Debauches. Upon the whole we may justly aver, that a Reduction of Wages in the Woollen Manufactures would be a national Blessing and Advantage, and no real Injury to the Poor. By this Means we might keep our Trade, uphold our Rents, and reform the People into the Bargain.

8. The *French*, the *Dutch*, the *Flemings*, the *Irish*, work much cheaper than we; they live, many of them, exceeding hard, and labour for very low Wages. Had not the Legislature interposed, the *Irish* would have run away with all our Woollen Trade long ago, merely by the Dint of manufacturing at low Prices.

9. Mr. Wood argues thus, 'The Woollen Manufacture is undoubtedly
' by Laws, and all possible Care to be encouraged; but 'tis its Exportation
' abroad, and not the *Consumption of it at home*^p, that must bring Profit^p Ch. 79.
' to the Kingdom. And indeed the best way of promoting the *Woollen* §. 2. Note.
' *Manufacture*, is not to force its Consumption at home, but by wholesome

is first said, 'as good fine Cloth for 13 s. per Yard as they buy from England for 16 s. Yet it b-
' ing here said also, that the Portuguese preferred the former for its Cheapness: Thence I think is to
be concluded, not that *French* Cloth, at 13 s. was equally good, Yard for Yard, as was the
English at 16 s. Because in that Case, it was no Choice in the *Portuguese*, to resolve to buy *French*
rather than *English* Cloth; since that would have been, in Effect, only resolving rather to pay
13 s. than 16 s. for the very same Thing. And therefore what I understand is, that the *French*
Cloth, tho' in Fact, not so good as the *English*, yet being thought as well worth 13 s. as the *Eng* See Ch. 184
lish was worth 15 or 16 s. THEREFORE, the *Portuguese* preferred it, because coming for less §. 50. Note.
Money.

‘ and good Laws to contrive, that it might be wrought and manufactured
 ‘ cheaply ; which only can enable us to command the Markets, and truly
 ‘ make this Kingdom a Gainer by it. It is certain, no Country in *Europe*
 ‘ manufactures all Kinds of Goods so dear as the People of this Kingdom,
 ‘ which gives the *French* and other Nations, a vast Advantage in carry-
 ‘ ing their Manufactures to Market, and enables them to become, tho’ not
 ‘ in Goodness, yet in the Cheapness of them, our Rivals in Trade to almost
 ‘ all Countries.’

10. The *Spectator* says, ‘ it seems a Paradox, that the Price of Labour
 ‘ should be reduced without an Abatement of Wages, or that Wages can
 ‘ be abated without any Inconvenience to the Labourer ; yet nothing is
 ‘ more certain, than that both these Things may happen. The Wages
 ‘ of the Labourers make the greatest Part of the Price of every Thing that
 ‘ is useful ; and if in Proportion with the Wages, the Prices of all other
 ‘ Things should be abated, every Labourer with less Wages would still be
 ‘ able to purchase as many Necessaries of Life ; where then would be the
 ‘ Inconvenience?’ Here I would remark, that putting our Manufacturers
 under a Necessity of working constantly, would, perhaps in the Woolen
 Trade, amount to the same Thing, as an Addition of one Third more
 Hands.

11. But to consider this as a domestick Affair only between the Clothier
 and Manufacturer. Supposing Trade, from a Glut of Goods unfold, so
 bad, that the Clothier should resolve to drop the greatest Part of his Busi-
 ness, or give less Wages, in order to make himself amends for a dead
 Stock lying upon his Hands ; where is the Injustice or Oppression? are not
 both Parties free? A superfine Cloth costs 60 or 40 s. more the compleating,
 than it did twenty Years ago, and yet it sells for sometimes 20 s. less. Is
 it reasonable that the same Prices be given for Labour now, as were given
 formerly, when the Profits of the Trade, were double what they are
 now? The Gentlemen and Magistrates ought to aid and encourage the
 Clothier, in the Reduction of the Price of Labour, so far as is consistent
 with the Laws of Humanity, and necessary for the Preservation of the
 foreign Trade. We must by some Means or other reduce the Price
 of Labour, that our Manufactures may find a Vent in foreign Mar-
 kets. For it is on our foreign Trade or Exports, the Riches of the
 Nation depend. For, suppose we should lose but one half of our Exports

of Woolen Goods, which have been valued at 4,000,000*l.* * *per Ann.* the Amount of the Wool unfold, the first Year, would be 251,000*l.* which will lie by on Hand, and sink the Price exceeding low; and the Amount of the Labour of the People (thereby lost) would be 1,750,000*l.* which at 6*l.* *per Head per Ann.* will maintain near 300,000 Persons.

12. I come now to the Charge against the Clothiers, of combining together, to lower the Wages of the Manufacturers. If there be any Combination (which is what I know not of) why are not the Authors prosecuted according to Law? The Manufacturers have, by their Clubs, a Stock of several hundred Pounds Capital; so that they are not incapacitated to prosecute Combinations, or to put down the Business of *Truck*, if they had Inclination; and therefore I conclude, that *Trucking* is no real Grievance to the Manufacturer, whatever they may pretend.

The Tyranny of the Blackwell-Hall Factors.

13. The Sufferings of the Poor employed in working up *Spanish Wool* are not owing to the Unmercifulness of the Clothiers, but the Tyranny of *Blackwell-Hall Factors*; who, though originally but the Servants of the Makers, are now become their Masters, and not only theirs, but the Wool Merchants and Drapers too.

14. Perhaps, Sir, You may ask how it is possible that these Men, who stile themselves but Factors or Agents, could find Means to lord it as Tyrants over their Employers? Why thus: they have managed it so, that the Merchant dare not sell his Wool to the Clothier, nor the Clothier presume to buy it of the Merchant. On this grand Point their whole Power is founded. To make this clear, Sir, you are to understand, that in the Year 1695, the Clothiers finding themselves in much the same Circumstances they are at present, by their Credit given to the Drapers on one Hand, and their being obliged to purchase Wool of the Factors, on the other, applied in a Body to Parliament for Relief, and an Act was accordingly passed * for restoring to them *Blackwell-Hall* for a Market, limiting the Credit to be given for their Goods, to six Months; obliging the Factor to

* Ch. 76. §. 5.
Ch. 78. §. 1
Note.

Ch. 78. §.
1. Note.

* Whatever may be the real Value of Woolen Goods ordinarily exported from *England*, within the Circle of one Year, the Custom-house Accounts, upon an Average, do not, in this Case, amount to any Thing near that Sum; altho' those of the Year 1737-8 exceed it. And yet remarkably great were the Complaints of that very Time, concerning a supposed Decay of the *English foreign Trade*, and yet more particularly, with Regard to the *Woolen Exportation Trade*. Nor is it less to be remarked, how extreme low was the Price of *English Wool* in *England*, at the same Time also. (See Chap. 176. P. 8.)

demand.

demand Notes of Hand of the Draper, payable in that Term, for the Use of the Clothier, on Penalty of forfeiting Double the Value of the Debt; and in Case the Draper refused to give such Notes, so demanded, fining him 20s.

15. For a little while, this Act had its desired Effect; these Notes were immediately returned to the Clothier, who carried them to Market for Wool, &c. and by that Means, made them Answer in Trade almost as well as Cash itself. The Factors thus stripped of the most valuable Part of their Business, immediately concerted such Measures as rendered the whole Act ineffectual, and put it in their Power to tyrannize over the Clothiers as much as ever. This was done, by tampering with those of the Trade, whose Circumstances were most precarious, who induced by the Promise of a speedy Sale for their Goods, prior to those of any other Maker, were easily prevailed upon to forgo the Advantage of the Notes granted them by Parliament. This fatal Precedent being once set, the Factors instantly exacted a like Compliance from all the rest; and if any refused, not one Piece of their Cloth was sold. By which Means, being obliged to keep their Workmen employed in the Interval, their whole Stock, though ever so large, was exhausted; and the more Stock they had, the more it became their Interest to truckle to their old Oppressors, and again take off their Wool on what Terms they pleased.

16. This important Point carried, like true Politicians, they resolved to pursue their Blow, and add some new Acquisitions to what they possessed before. Accordingly, they again allowed the Drapers such unreasonable Credit, that it was impossible for the most substantial Clothier to carry on the Trade, while the Returns were so slow and precarious. On an universal Complaint therefore of this Grievance, they graciously condescended to insure the Debt to be paid, twelve Months after it was contracted; but in Return of so great a Favour, insisted on two and a Half *per Cent.* as a Reward; and if any was rash or stubborn enough to disrelish or oppose this new Imposition, he had the Mortification to wait six Months longer for his Money, that is to say, a Year and a Half in all; which together with the three Months the Cloth is in making, and three that (one Piece with another) it continues in the Hall, before it is sold off, make two Years in the whole. Now let any one judge how large a Stock is absolutely necessary to carry on a Trade, under all these Disadvantages, particularly when 'tis recollected, that the Clothier is obliged to pay his Workmen ready Money

ney all this while, whether his Goods are vended or no; and that the modest Factor always insists on his being paid for his Wool, with the first Money he receives for the Cloth.

17. Neither is even this all.—But if the Clothier, hard drove by so vast and so continued a Charge, should be compelled, as too many are, to draw upon the Factor for Money before 'tis due, according to their Calculation, one Misfortune makes Way for another; and he must pay an extravagant Premium for the Advance, probably, of his own Money. Nor are you to wonder, Sir, that these worthy Gentlemen are so solicitous to monopolize the whole Market of *Spanish Wool*; since, on a Medium, they get four Pounds on every Pack. Now a considerable Clothier may be supposed to work up 80 Packs a Year; which is in a manner a Rent Charge of 320*l.* to the Factor annually; for 'tis more than probable, that this very Wool is purchased with the Clothier's Cash; and while the Factor grows rich without any Risque, and with very little Trouble; the Clothier is doubly Excised, both for what he receives, and what is not only withheld, but employed so manifestly to his Prejudice.

18. 'Tis farther to be observed, that as by far the greatest Part of a Clothier's Stock must of Necessity be lodged in the Factor's Hands, if he (the Clothier) happens to break, or die insolvent (as in Spite of a whole Life of Toil and Industry, many of them do) the Factor immediately seizes on the Whole; it being (says he) a *Pledge for Money advanced, Wool sold, &c.* so that the rest of the Creditors seldom receive a Farthing, while he to whom the poor Man's Calamity is principally owing, runs away with all.

19. Besides these capital Grievances, there are several others, which tho' inferior in Degree, are, when added together, no small Increase of the Load; such as the Factors lumping the Charges for Warehouse-room in the Hall, Porterage, Pressing, Packing, &c. every Article of which ought to be particular; as likewise sending out Cloths to the Drapers at the Expence of the Clothier, not for Sale; but one would be almost tempted to think, to supply the Shops with the Paper and Packthread they are secured with; since they are returned stripp'd of both, tumbled from End to End, exposed to all Weather and Accidents, and in such a Condition as renders it absolutely necessary to have them cleaned, pressed, and packed anew. And all this, after they have been out of the Hall six or eight Weeks; tho' the above quoted Act of Parliament provides, that every Cloth shall be reputed sold, after it hath been detained eight Days.

20. One would think, Sir, I had already mentioned Grievances enough, not only to justify the Clothier, but to excite the Concern of the whole People in their Favour, and the Aid of the Legislature in their Redress. But there is yet another behind, which ought not to be omitted. 'Tis this—These worthy Factors, not content with all these various Methods of Oppression ; to crown the Whole, often set up People to act as Master Clothiers, on their Stock, during any little Glut of Business ; and as 'tis easy to imagine, give all the Cloth so made, the Preference of the Market, though perhaps in all Respects, least deserving of it : Hence, those that trade on their own Bottoms, and employ the Poor in good and bad Times alike, are liable to all the Disadvantages of the one, with little or no Share in the Benefits of the other. And hence, more People are admitted into Trade, than the Trade can possibly maintain ; which opens a new Door to the Tumults and Riots so lately felt.

12. Now, Sir, I say again, let the Publick judge whether this miserable State of the Clothiers deserves Pity or Blame ; whether the Distresses of the industrious Poor are to be placed to their Account ; and in one Word, whether 'tis their Fault that our Woolen Goods come dearer to Market than those of other Nations. Sure I am, I have heard many of them say, that if the Legislature would deliver them from this insupportable Yoke, they would oblige themselves both to increase their Wages, and lower the Price of their Goods. And why the Interest of these useless Drones in the human Hive, should interfere with two such great and national Advantages, is beyond my Wit or Judgment to resolve. I hope, however, on this plain and unaffected Representation of the Case, and at a Time when the whole Manufacture of *Great Britain* is like to come under the Consideration of Parliament, that some Patriot will arise to do Justice to the Oppressor and the Oppressed.

C H A P. CXXXIX.

*The late Improvements in Trade, Navigation, and Manufactures
considered, &c. 1739*.*

1. **I**F we compare the present State of our *Trade* with what it was about twenty Years ago, it will be found, that far from having Reason of Complaint, we ought to exult. The Increase of our Trade and Industry is as visible as the Increase of our Wealth, in Consequence of them, is certain and undoubted.

2. Before the Year 1718, our foreign Trade was chiefly confined to *London, Bristol, and Liverpool*; but 'tis now become so general, that not one Sea Port, and scarce an Inland Town in the Kingdom, is without *Adventurers*, who export considerably, and correspond directly with most of the trading Countries of *Europe* and *America*.

3. The Number of *Adventurers* is not only increased in the Out-Ports, and Inland Towns, where such were never heard of till of late, but likewise in the three principal Marts mentioned before. In *London* alone, I will take upon me to say, that the Number of *Adventurers* is trebled within these twenty Years; and if I am rightly informed, 'tis the same at *Bristol* and *Liverpool*. The Number of our Natives and Agents abroad, of our trading Ships and Tonnage, bears a just Proportion to the Increase of our *Adventurers*. And as an Increase of *Seamen* is the natural Consequence of an Increase of Shipping, there is little Room for doubting that we have at this Time one Third more Sailors than we had in 1718. The same may be said as to Shipwrights, and other Artizans dependant upon Navigation. The necessary Consequences of so happy and visible an Increase of *Adventurers*, Shipping, and *Seamen*, is an Increase of Commerce, which must as naturally produce an Increase of Manufactures, as an Increase of both must necessarily increase the national Wealth.

4. But to obviate the mistaken Notions of the *desponding*, who think that our Manufactures are lessened, because some Manufacturers mutiny for an

* We have had for some Time, in several of the foregoing Chapters, an extraordinary Run of Complaints, in Regard to Trade in general, particularly foreign Trade; and more especially concerning that Part of it, the *Woolen Exports* from *England*. But in this Chapter, we shall hear another Story, in every Respect.

Increase of Wages, and therefore are unemployed: Let it be observed, That the Number of Manufacturers is equal, if not beyond the aforesaid proportioned Increase of Merchants, Shipping and Seamen. This being considered, it won't be admired, that the Wages of Manufacturers should lessen, as the Wages of Seamen have, before the late Call for the latter, to man the Royal Navy. I must add, on this Occasion, that it were to be wished * the Price of Labour could be lowered, beyond what we see it; as the Cheapness of Labour is the only Advantage which the *French* and other industrious Nations have over us †. And here let me add, that nothing but the Luxury of our working People could prevent our being able to undersell our Rivals, considering the Advantage we have of them in Plenty and Cheapness of Provisions, every where, but near the Metropolis.

5. 'Tis true, that some of our ancient Manufactures are lessened, and some quite disused; but 'tis equally true, that there is a very considerable Increase of some Manufactures, and that others are invented within these twenty Years. For Instance, the Manufacture of what the Clothier calls *Spanish Cloth*, worth from 5 s. to 8 s. per Yard, is greatly lessened, if not quite disused; but the Manufacture from 2 s. 6 d. to 4 s. per Yard, of Kerfies, Welch Plains, Druggets, Sagathies, *German Serge*, Stockings, Hats, Camblets and Stuffs, of various Kinds, is augmented far beyond what it was, when *Spanish Cloth* was called for from abroad.

6. The Adventurer must accommodate himself to the Taste of the Nations he deals with. As that changes, he must vary his Orders to the Manufacturer; to which this last must conform, or become idle and unhappy. From hence it arises, that some Manufactures are lessened, some disused, whilst others are increased, and many invented. But to argue from the Decrease or Disuse of certain Manufactures, that there is a Decrease of our Woolen Manufactures in general, would be as absurd, as to say, that such an extraordinary Increase of our Merchants, Seamen, and Shipping, as has been mentioned, was no Indication of an Increase of our Trade and Riches.

7. Another Proof in Favour of an Increase of our Woolen Manufacture, is, that we have no Quantities of raw Wool lying on Hand, from one Year to the next; though it be certain, that we grow one Third more Wool now,

* And what is this, but wishing the Nation not to be quite so rich as it is; the People in course less fully employed; which alone can lower the Price of Labour?

† Whence proceeds this Luxury, but from Wealth and Plenty, the natural Offspring of Trade?

than we did twenty Years ago. The great and surprizing Improvement of our Lands throughout the whole Kingdom, during that Period of Time, is the happy Cause of the aforesaid Increase of our Wool : And that these Improvements and the consequential Increase of Cattle of all Kinds, is one Proof of the Increase of our national Wealth, I think, won't bear being controverted.

8. Many other Manufactures, besides the Woolen, and particularly those of Silk, Iron, Brass, and other *Metals*, have been immensely increased within these last twenty Years. Before that Time, we were obliged to *Holland* and *Italy* for all, or most of our wrought Silks : But the Case is now so altered, that we not only work more elegantly than they, but are able to export of this Manufacture, besides furnishing for our own Consumption.

9. As for our Manufacture of Iron, Brass, Copper, Gold and Silver, and other Metals of late Invention, 'tis brought to that Perfection, and so generally esteemed abroad, that there is scarce a Retailer in the known World, that has not a constant Supply of it for the Use of his Customers. 'Tis incredible what large Quantities of this Manufacture are annually exported. I have known it computed by some of our most intelligent Adventurers, at some *hundred thousands* of Pounds ; and yet five and twenty Years ago, 'twas scarce known abroad, and hardly accounted a Commodity for Exportation.

10. There is another Manufacture sprung up ; at least, wonderfully improved within these twenty Years ; which though it be not immediately of *English* Growth, is not less beneficial to us than that of *Metals* : This is that of *Linen* and *Sail Cloth*, so happily improved in *Scotland* and *Ireland* that it is valued at no less than 700,000 *l.* Though Improvements in any Part of the King's Dominions may be looked upon as an Addition to the Wealth of this Nation ; yet as the Produce of all or most of it, *viz.* Of the Linen of *Scotland* and *Ireland*, centers in this *Metropolis*, it may be said to be an Improvement that regards us immediately. This happy Improvement of the Linen Manufacture, and those lately established here, of Paper, Threads, Tapes, and many other minute Articles, have lessened our Importations from *Holland* and *Germany* considerably, every Year.

11. The Manufacture of *Cotton* mixed and plain, is arrived to so great Perfection, within these twenty Years, that we not only make enough for

our own Consumption, but supply our Colonies, and many of the Nations of *Europe*. The Benefits arising from this Branch are such, as to enable the Manufacturers of *Manchester* alone to lay out above *thirty thousand Pounds* a Year, for many Years past, on additional Buildings: 'Tis computed that *two Thousand* new Houses have been built in that industrious Town, within these twenty Years.

12. The Exportation of all our native Commodities, natural and improved, has increased within these last twenty Years, in Proportion to the Increase of our Navigation. It has been objected, that this Increase of our *Exports* bears no Proportion to that of our Imports of many Articles that administer to Luxury; such as Wines, Fruits, &c. 'Tis admitted, that our Import of Wine, though not of Fruit, is increased; but I deny that 'tis increased in Proportion to the Increase of our *Exports*; and, if it were, there are two other beneficial Articles, the Appendages of Trade and Navigation not yet mentioned, which more than compensate for any Increase of our luxurious Imports. These are the Benefits arising from *Insurances* made here for Account of *Foreigners*, and from *Freights*, as being for many Years the Sea-Carriers of most of the trading Nations of the Continent.

13. If further Proof should be required of the Increase of our Manufactures*, Exports and Navigation, and the Wealth accruing from our Trade, for twenty Years past; let the doubtful recur to that infallible Test, the Increase of the National Stock; this will prove it beyond Contradiction. The Increase of this Stock in every Thing that can constitute *National Wealth*, is so visible, that they who would contest it, must be blind and insensible, or obstinate and perverse to an Infatuation. The Reduction of *Interest*, and the present and late settled State of *Credit*, are other Proofs, and the strongest, of the Increase and Advantage of our Trade and Navigation.

* In the Daily Gazetteer.

* This Representation, at the Time when it was first published*, passed with many, for a Piece of State Flattery, or as a ministerial Puff; and it was undoubtedly intended to do Honour to the Administration, of that Period; as such, wanted for no proper Embellishments. But (which is more to the Credit of the Author, and of the Times and Persons he meant to praise) the single Point, which from the *Price of Wool* at that Time, seemed to be a mere Paradox, was indeed most eminently true. For, notwithstanding the Complaints which were then so loudly echoed throughout the Kingdom, that the *English Woolen Trade* was *wholly decayed*, it has since turned out, by Custom-House Accounts, exhibited to Parliament, *Anno 1745*, that the *English Woolen Exports* never had been, I will not say greater, for that they never had; but seldom, if ever, any Thing near so great, as in the Year 1737-8 particularly.

C H A P.

C H A P. CXL.

*Observations on British Wool, and the Manufacturing of it in this Kingdom; with Remarks on the Wool and Woolen Manufactures of France, Flanders, and Holland: By a * Woolen Manufacturer of Northamptonshire, 1739.*

1. OUR long combing Wool is the Sort of Wool our Rivals covet Page 2.

most. I know that it is generally believed, that the making of Cloth abroad of our Wool, is that which destroys our Woolen Trade: But that is a Mistake. The Wool of *France* is for the most Part very coarse, and short Page 3. in general, not above three or four Inches long, and of a harsh sower Nature; and great Part of it hath a Stichel Hair in it, like some of our Wool that is of the Growth of *Norfolk, Suffolk, &c.* and in some Parts of the North of *England*. This Stichel Hair is of a bright shining Colour, not like the other Wool that grows along with it on the same Sheep, it being more like Dogs hair; this Hair will not twist in along with the other Hair when it is spun, but continues to stare out, make it into what Goods they will: Neither will it dye into any proper Colour; but still will continue of a whitish Colour.

The Stichel Hair in Wool. The Nature and Properties of it.

2. There is a little long Wool that is growed in *North Holland* and *Lo-vaine* in *Flanders*; but this is not fine, like the Wool of *England* and *Ireland*; the *French* Wool is pretty much like the *Flemish* and *Holland* Wool; but the combing Wool of *England* and *Ireland* is fine and long, free from this Stichel Hair, and the natural Strength of it makes it valuable, as well as the Softness and Fineness of it; and the Manufactures of Stuffs and Stockins made thereof, are preferable for Goodness and Beauty, to any Goods that they can make of their own Wool, either in *France, Flanders, or Holland*. Even as our Stuffs of the finest Quality, that are made of the best and finest Wool, surpass the Goods that are made of the coarsest Wool.

3. The Wool of *Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire, and Rutland,*

* Compare this Account of *French Wool* with Ch. 83. § 17. and then judge of the Advantage to be made by mixing fine *English* with these Stichel haired *French Wools*, if such they be (as here said) generally and for the most Part; but which we have Reason to think they are not.

with

with some Parts of *Huntingdon, Bedford, Buckinghamshire, and Cambridgeshire*, and *Rumney Marsh*, with some Parts of *Norfolk*, have been accounted the longest and finest combing Wool. But of late Years, there have been Improvements made in the Breed of Sheep, by changing of Rams, and sowing of Turneps, Grass Seeds, &c. and now there is some large fine combing Wool to be found in most Counties in *England* *, which is fine, long, and soft, fit to make all Sorts of fine Stuffs and Hose of.

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4. This long combing Wool, is either used alone in Stuffs, Stockins, &c. or mixed with carding Wool, wherein the former is the Chain or Warp, and the latter, the Woof or Shoot; as in Bays, Serges, Druggets, Perpetuanoes, &c. or with Silk, Mohair, or Cotton, such as Crape, Druggets, Plush, &c. But none † of these Goods can Foreigners make with their own Wool only, fit for a foreign Market; but when mixed with the Wool of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, then they are enabled to do it. This makes Foreigners covet our Wool; hence is the Temptation to *Owling*; by which Means we lessen the Demands for our Woolen Goods, in those Countries where they are now made, which formerly was served by us, and must again, if we can be so good to ourselves, as to keep our Wool at home. Nay we not only lose the serving of them, but by giving them our Wool, we put them into a Condition to furnish the very Markets to which we send our Woolen Goods.

5. It is not above seventy Years, since *France* began to make Cloth ‡. Before, we used to send large Quantities of Woolen Goods thither. But since the clandestine Exportation of our Wool hath been carried on so vigorously to that Country, the *French* King hath prohibited all our Manufactures, and they are so far increased in *France*, that they send vast Quantities of Stuffs, Stockins, &c. to *Spain, Portugal, Italy, &c.* But this Pro-

* And may not some other Countries, think we, be capable of equal Improvements by the like Means?

† What! Foreigners make no Bays, Serges, Druggets, Perpetuanoes, without a Mixture of *British* or *Irish* Wool? We read to the contrary in the *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*. See (Chap. 151.) Serges, of *French* Wool, very fine. See (Chap. 156. §. 14, 15, 16.) Perpetuanas, (§. 17.) Bays, (§. 19.) Crape, (§. 21.)

‡ It is now about 80 Years, since the *French* set up certain Woolen Manufactures, under the Cover of Letters Patents, with Charters exclusive, for fine Cloth of *Spanish* Wool. But what is that to the Business of *British* Wool? The *French* were Makers of common Cloth and other Drapery, long before. For Instance, in 1511, they sent into the Dominions of the Emperor *Maximilian* in the *Low Countries*, as much in Value, of Woolens, as the *English* and *Scotch* both together did. More than that, we find that fine Cloth, of *Spanish* Wool, was a Manufacture in *France*, before the Year 1603.

x Ch. 39. §.

13. Note.

y Ch. 12. §.

15. Note.

hibition

hibition of the *French* would do us no harm, if we could be so wise and good to ourselves, to keep our Wool at home, and manufacture it ourselves.

6. *Hamborough, Holland, Flanders, France, &c.* are able to manufacture divers Sorts of Stuffs and Stockins; which makes our Manufactures a Drug in those Parts, the *Dutch* and *Flemings* buying of us only what is wanted to make up proper Assortments; the Foreigners not yet making all Sorts so neat as we do. But if they continue to have our Wool, in a few Years, they will be able to make as well as we do. It is not long since the *Hollanders* came to be supplied with Woolen Goods, from some Part of the *German* Dominions, which are made with our Wool†, and are made near as good as our Stuffs. In the short Space of a few Years, the Woolen Manufactories of the *Low Countries*, and some Parts of *Germany, &c.* are so improved and increased, by the Help of our Wool, that *Holland* is chiefly served from them with these Sorts of Goods, which they mix with a few they buy from *England*, and then they call them all *English* * Goods, because *English* Woolen Manufactures have had the Vogue and Name for many Years past.

7. Thirty of our best Artificers have lately gone to *Denmark*. The Manufacture begun at *Altena*, near *Hamburgh*, about six Years ago, by one *John Hudson* from *Yorkshire*, has now above one hundred Looms in it, for Stuffs, Stockins, narrow Goods, &c. Page 10, 11.

8. At *Abbeville* is a large Manufactory, of fine Broad Cloths, in which is used no Wool but *Spanish*. The Looms are 108. It is carried on by three Partners, Nephews to old *Van Robais*†, who first begun it. They live in as much Grandeur as any Peers in *France*. But tho' there is none of our Wool used in this Fabrick, there is too much used in the Town of *Abbeville*. I believe there is above 1000 Looms going in this Town on Paragons, besides a great many employed in Druggets, Serge, Cloth Serge, &c. Page 19. See Ch. 155.

† A very unlikely Story this; although it may be true that the *Hollanders* are supplied, from some Parts of *Germany*, with *English like* Goods, not only near, but full as good, as if they had been made of *English* Wool. (See Chap. 101. §. 2. Ch. 153. §. 1. Ch. 168. §. 2--5.) Ch. 183. §. 53, 54.

* This is true, or it is not; if it is, could the giving of a Name to Goods, so far impose upon People, that they should not discern a Difference, if it was material? But if there is no material Difference between Goods, really *English*, and those which are only *so called*, to what Purpose serveth all this, but to shew that the Writer is a Well-wisher to a *Lye* that has been often told, altho' he cannot support it?

&c. Those Goods are chiefly sent to *Spain*, *Portugal*, and *Italy*, and sold for *English* Goods.

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9. There is another pretty large Manufactory carried on in this Town by four Partners, with good Success. They make Serge Royals, Druggets, Shalloons, Cloth Serge, mostly with *Irish* and *English* Wool. As near as I could learn, there are about three 300 Wool Combers in this Town; and a great deal of Wool, combed here, is sent to *Amiens*; at which Place is made a great many Silks and Stuffs in Imitation of those at *Norwich*. Those Goods are generally mixed with our Wool; but the finer Sort made of all *English* or *Irish* Wool, mixed with Silk, Mohair, &c.

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10. At *Montdidre* in *Picardy*, within these two Years, is a Factory set up; and yet they could not carry on their old ones, if they were not furnished with *English* and *Irish* Wool.

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11. At *St. Omers* is a Manufactory of Cloth, increased within these seven Years, double what it was before. There are 350 Looms, besides Stockin-Frames. They make Hose very good, some of *all* * our Wool, some are mixed with about half their own. In the making of their Duroys, Sagathies, Druggets and Serges, they mix about one Third of our Wool, and two thirds of their own, and make their Goods much stronger and heavier than we do ours in the same Kind. Their fine Cloth is all *Spanish* Wool. The second is about half *English*, and half their own Wool; the coarse is made of all their own Wool, and worn by the Poor of their Neighbourhood.

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12. At *Lisle* they make some broad and narrow Cloths, and a few Druggets, but vast Quantities of Stuffs and Stockins. There are near 1000 Looms employed in making Camblets; some Ell wide, some three Quarters; all made of *English* or *Irish* Wool; and a much greater Number with mixed Wool, in making the same Sort of Goods. Besides, a great many hundred Looms are employed in making Callimancoes and several Sorts of Worsted Stuffs. They comb a great deal of Wool in this Town; but send more to *St. Paul* and *Fruges*; where it is combed, spun, doubled, and twisted for them. One Madam *Dislobbes*^a, a great Manufacturer at *Lisle*,

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^a §. 16. Note.

^b See also

§. 14.

* This single Instance ^b (which will be confirmed by other Testimonies) is sufficient to overturn all that is said touching the great Advantages to be made from *English* Wool, by mixing it with *French* particularly: Because was that true, the *French* would be more than mad Men, to work up any *English* Wool alone; in doing which, they could have but the single Benefit of their Labour; whereas by working it up, mixed with their own, the Benefit would be more than treble to that of common Labour.

told

told me, that in all Callimancoes and Camblets, they use more or less *English* Wool, and could not do without our Wool †.

13. *Turcoin* is well stored with Woolen Manufactory; many thousand Hands there, are employed in combing, spinning, &c; and the greatest Part of the Wool wrought up there, is either *Irish* or *English*, brought by the Way of *Holland*. I was told by the riding General of the Customs of this Town, that there is fourteen Persons there, that make Wool-Combs, tho' I suppose they do not wholly depend on that particular Branch of Business; if they did, there must be a vast Number of Wool-Combers in that Neighbourhood; for there is but two Wool-comb Makers in this great City of *London*. Page 30, 31.

14. At *Roubaix*, four or five Miles from *Turcoin*, and at *Lanay*, four Miles from *Roubaix*, they employ many hundreds of Hands in making fine Callimancoes, Camblets, &c. the finest, all of *English* or *Irish* Wool; a great Number mixed with our Wool and theirs. I have named but three Towns; but the whole Country (like the West of *England*) abounds with Combers, Spinners, Weavers, &c. and these all well cloathed, and their Families. And, as the Case stands at present, it is my Opinion, that the *French* have all the Wool they have Occasion of, from us, for *nothing*; that is, they pay the Owlers for it with Wines, Teas, Brandies, &c. Page 22.

15. *Tournay* has a small Manufacture of Silk and Worsted Stuffs, and Stockins made of *English* or *Irish* Wool. At *Bridges* is a great Manufactory of broad Seys; some few made of all their own Wool, but many more of our Wool, and their own mixed. I was told by one that was twenty-five Years in the Sey-making Trade, he had his Wool drawed through the Comb in *England*; and that it came to him from *London*; and he said so long as he could find Money, he never should want *English* Wool. Page 34.

16. At *Liege* are made several Sorts of Stuffs, but principally Seys and Shalloons, which are sent white to *Holland*; and in Return, they take some of our *English* long fine Wool, to make their Warp for their fine Seys and Shalloons. But the chief Assortment is a middling Shalloon, heavier than ours, of the same Quality; which makes the *Hollanders* and *Flemings* chuse them before ours. At *Antwerp*, a few fine Hose and Stuffs are made Part Page 35.

† *More or less*, &c. I should be glad to see this *Northamptonshire Woolen Manuf. Eturer* explain himself touching this Sentence, so as to answer the Purpose of his Argument, and satisfy any one who will give himself the Trouble of consulting, for a single Moment, his own Reason and Senses.

of *English*, Part of their own Country Wool. At *Middleborough* in *Zealand*, *English* Wool ready combed, and *English* Worsted and Yarn are prohibited Goods, liable to be confiscated *; though sometimes they get Wool from *Scotland* in the Fleece, as I was there informed.

Page 55. 17. At *Leyden*, is made a great deal of Broad Cloth, all with *Spanish* Wool, also some Draps, mixed with some of ours, and some *Spanish* Wool. About thirty Years ago, they had upwards of nine hundred Looms; and now there is but four hundred. But the Merchants of this Place employ six hundred Broad Looms at *Tilborough*; so that upon the Whole, they have increased their Trade about one Tenth more than it was thirty Years ago. The *Hollanders* purchase Wool from *Spain*, *Portugal*, *England*, *Germany*, *Hamborough*, and several other Places; and being very curious Sorters, they take Care to do it well; and when so done, they send not only Worsted, but some of the Wool to *Germany*, and several other Places that they buy Wool from themselves. But the *English* and *Irish* Wool is a Support of all the Wool † they buy for combing; that being a thick, fine, full, long, strong, Staple, and is fit for mixing with other Wool, such as *German*, *French*, *Flemish*, and *Holland* Wool.

Page 52.

Page 53.

18. Many Towns in *England* might be named, where the Trade is in a manner lost. But some may say, the Trade has only shifted from one Part to another in the Kingdom. This is not the Case; but it is returned back to *France* and *Flanders*. Our Trade, in several important Branches, is considerably decreased. This is owing to Wool run from *England* and *Ireland*. And even the Land-holder finds the Inconvenience thereof, by the present low Price of Wool ‡. Of which we may be convinced by a plain Matter of Fact, namely, the *flourishing State of Trade*, the *high Price* of Wool, and Wages to the Poor too, which we found to be the Effect of the Plague at *Marseilles*. Our

22

§. 12.

* Can it be imagined, that *English* Wool is so great a Jewel to all the manufacturing World besides; and yet that its being spun, or so much as combed, should so far change its Nature, and make it so very obnoxious to any Place, as to render it confiscated? For what tho' the Province of *Zealand* has, besides good Wool of its own, many Combers and Spinners employed? don't the *Dutch* avoid, more than any People, Prohibitions of all Kinds? and don't they know how to make Merchandize of whatever is marketable? And therefore is not the Truth of this Article to be doubted? and does it not bring, if not the Author's Veracity, yet his Knowledge and Judgment both into Question? might not *Madam Dislobbes* † impose upon and banter him?

† The Support of all the Wool, &c. Another dark Expression, which wants to be cleared up, for the Satisfaction of any Person, who considers at all, and is not endued with a *Roman Faith*.

‡ This was true with a Witness: Wool was sold at this Time, for less Silver than was called the ancient Price, in 1581, and for less Silver by one third at least, than it actually did sell for in that Year 1581. (See Chap. 23. P. 8.)

Wool was then one Third † more in Value, than it is now ; we had a current Demand for all the Goods we manufactured, notwithstanding the foreign Demand for Wool ceased, and *all the Wool and Yarn of Ireland* was brought to us, because it could not be run abroad. From hence it's evident, we could work up and sell the Woolen Produce of both Kingdoms, if the foreign Markets were not stocked with Goods manufactured by our Neighbours ; which that Calamity prevented in *France* ; and at that Time, the Manufactures of *Flanders*, &c. was not come to any Maturity.

19. Such a plain evident Fact as this, must convince every impartial Person, that if our Wool could be effectually secured to ourselves, the Price of it *must* rise, as it is certain it *did*, when the Demand for it was stopped by the aforefaid Occurrence.

20. It has been imagined by some, that the prohibiting the Wear of Callicoes about the same Time, occasioned this prosperous Juncture of the Woolen Trade ; but this will appear to be only Imagination, if we consider Page 57. two Circumstances ; the one is, that no sooner were Callicoes out of Use in *England*, but they were immediately sent to our foreign Plantations, and many other Places, where our Woolen Goods had been formerly wore ; so that we sent Callicoes instead of Woolen Goods abroad, though we wore, for a little while, Callicoes instead of Woolen Goods at home. We were far from gaining any Advantage to the Woolen Trade thereby. The other Circumstance is ; had the Prohibition of Callicoes influenced the Demand, it would have been confined to such Stuffs as are peculiar to the Women's Wear ; whereas the Demand was universal, for Stuffs, Cloth, Hose, and all Sorts of Woolen Goods ; which indeed proves we are undermined by Foreigners in every Branch of our Manufacture ; which could never be hurt, had we but some effectual Method found out to keep our Wool from them.

† Had our Author stopp'd here, he had said nothing but the Truth, in Regard to the Price of Wool ; which was one third more at the Time of the Plague breaking out at *Marseilles*, than in this Year, 1739. But whereas he adds, * this was an Advance occasioned by that Incident, * such Addition is a direct Falsehood ; for Wool *did not* advance at that Time ; but, on the contrary, it fell ; and did so, most probably, *because*, as he says, all, or however a greater Share than usual, of the Wool and Yarn of *Ireland*, was brought to *England*. (See Chap. 174.) §. 19.

21. The Case above also proves, it is not the Yarn or Wool from *Ireland* can hurt * us, if we secure them from our Neighbours; 'tis the Exportation thereof that lowers the Price here; for every Pack they obtain from us, in common, works up two of their own. So that suppose a Pack of Wool makes ten Pieces in *England*, these ten Pieces are sent to the Market abroad. But if Foreigners get this Pack of Wool, by mixing it with two of their own, it produces thirty Pieces in the same Markets; this gluts the Markets abroad, and sinks the Price of Wool at home, and nothing else.

† See Ch. 126.

§. 31.

Chap. 174.

§. 18.

‡ See Ch. 142.

P. 8.

h See Ch. 125.

§. 7. Note.

Chap. 126.

§. 3. Note.

§. 13, 16.

Note.

Chap. 127.

§. 20, 21.

Chap. 131.

§. 10.

Chap. 133.

§. 9.

* The Case truly stated, proves, contrary to the Assertion of this Writer, that the Wool and Yarn of *Ireland* did, at this very Period, (1720--24) † hurt the Price of *English* Wool and Yarn in *England*. And there is all imaginable Reason to think, that on this very Account it was, namely, for the Sake of keeping down the Price of *English* Wool and Yarn, (for surely they could not but think them, the former especially, low enough at this Time,) that the Manufacturers were so very solicitous to carry a Bill, for taking off the Duty on *Irish* Yarn imported; in which they succeeded, before the Conclusion of this Year 1739; ‡ a Point that had been laboured almost incessantly h, for near ten Years together.

Upon the Whole, though this Writer has given us a View, and that but an imperfect one, of only a small Part of the *French* Woolen Manufacturies, yet there is Reason enough to conclude from his Account of the same, and of the several Woolen Manufacturies he has mentioned, of *Flanders* and *Holland*, that either the Prohibition on *English* and *Irish* Wool is not so necessary, as is commonly imagined, or else that it does not at all answer the pretended Purpose, of confining it to *England* and *Ireland*.

C H A P.

C H A P. CXLI.

A short Account of the State of our Woolen Manufactures from the Peace of Ryswick (1697) to this Time (1739) their former flourishing, and their present ruinous, Condition ; shewing, that they always flourished when FRANCE could not get OUR WOOL, but declined in Proportion to the Quantities of OUR WOOL exported ;

To which is added,

An effectual SCHEME to prevent the Exportation of OUR WOOL, by an Universal Register. London : Printed 1739.

Dedicated to the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London :
By Samuel Webber.

My Lord and Gentlemen,

I. **T**HE Exportation of our Wool to *France* is the chief Cause of our Weakness, and their Strength. An effectual Remedy for this fatal Evil has been often studied, but never before invented. I here offer you [*A Scheme*] which I may venture to call an effectual one, by the Help of which I undertake to bring, from Foreigners, into the Treasury, a Million yearly ; and, into the Interest of *Land* and *Trade*, above seven Millions ; so that the King and his Subjects have lost above sixty Millions ; and *France* has gained twice as much, by my Scheme's not being accepted, when I offered it near nine Years ago, recommended by the Hands of above 600,000 Traders. His Majesty, when I applied to him, was most graciously pleased to give Directions to the *Attorney General*, to report or form a Charter ; but an Act of Parliament being thought to be necessary, I have ever since been making a fruitless Application for such an Act, though my Scheme is so greatly beneficial to his Majesty and the Nation.

A short

A short Narrative, in some Letters.

L E T T E R. I.

Page 4.

*Mr. Web-
ber's Narra-
tive.*

Page 5.

2. I shall not go back further than my own Knowledge and Experience can carry me, as far as the Peace of *Ryswick* (1697) at which Time I was an Apprentice *, and a Witness to the flourishing Condition of our Woolen Manufactories; of the vast Demand for our Goods, and of the Flow of *Spanish* and other Gold in this Nation. At this Time, Wool yielded the Sheep Master from 12 to 14 and 16 *l.* a Pack. And from hence I would observe two Things, in Answer to two Objections that I have heard made against my Scheme for preventing the Exportation of Wool unmanufactured, *viz.* 1. That we might find Hands to manufacture our own Wool at home. 2. That we might have from abroad, a Demand for all the manufactured Goods that we could spare.

3. There are as many, and I believe many more, People in the Nation now, than there were then, that might be employed in our Manufacturies. The Nature of our Goods, and the Wants of Foreigners for such Goods, would be the same. So that were there proper Care taken to prevent the Exportation of our Wool, and proper Means used for manufacturing it ourselves, we should recover those Markets, which being formerly supplied with our Manufactures, are now filled with others. But if we do, as we may do, prevent the Exportation of Wool, *we shall put it out of the Power of Foreigners to make those Goods, and consequently oblige them to buy them of us.*

L E T T E R II.

4. The Year before the Peace of *Ryswick*, the *English*, jealous lest *Ireland* by being able to work Woolen Goods cheaper than they could do, would by that Means supplant them in foreign Markets, took the following Occasion † to cramp their free Trade with other Nations, *viz.* *England* having reduced *Ireland* at the Expence of nine Millions, and restored to the Protestants their Estates there, it was agreed that *Ireland*, instead of bearing any

* In Course, a competent Judge of the general State of the *English* Woolen Trade.

† *Mr. Webber*, about this Matter, is not only mistaken as to the Time, but in Regard to other Circumstances. (See the whole Affair, Chap. 82, 83, 84, 85. also Chap. 126.)

Proportion of that Charge, should lay a Tax of four Shillings a Pound on all Woolen Goods exported to foreign Markets.

5. Upon this, *England* became fearful that the *Irish* not having, as before, the Opportunity of the foreign Trade, might prejudice the *English* Manufactures, by importing *Woolen* Goods to *England*, cheaper than we could make them here. And therefore they prohibited the Importation of Woolen Goods from *Ireland*, except only to the five Wool Ports; and subjected all such Goods to Duties laid on them by antecedent Acts.

6. What now could the *Irish* do? Not having proper Vent for their manufactured Goods, they were glad to seek out for foreign Customers for their unmanufactured Wool. *FRANCE* took this Opportunity of getting Wool combed, from the *Irish*. The Method was, by skrewing it into Casks, with Shot covered with Butter, in Order to reduce it to a proper Weight. And as the *French* thus got Wool, so upon disbanding the Army at the Peace of *Ryswick*, of whom several Soldiers had been brought up to the Woolen Trade, they got useful Hands to assist in the Work, and ingenious Heads to instruct and manage them.

7. This was the Beginning of the Growth of their Manufacturies, and of the Decrease of ours. Their Goods at foreign Markets lessened the Demand for ours, and lowered the Price so much, that Wool fell from 14 and 16 to 9 and 11 *l.* a Pack.

Soon after this*, a War ensued, and the *French* were at a Loss for Wool; ^{e viz. in} they had little or none but what they took with their *Privateers*. I was at ^{1703. (See} that Time in Trade for myself, and had considerable Dealings, so that I ^{§. 9.)} was a Judge of the then State of our Consumption, and the Price of Goods.

9. We had at this Time (1703) to ourselves, the cloathing of ALL THE KNOWN WORLD, except those with whom we were at War. Goods were demanded as fast as we could make them. We had OUR OWN PRICE for them; and Wool rose again from 9 and 11, to 12 and 14 *l.* a Pack.

10. I desire the Reader to bear one Thing in Mind all the Way, that not only the Demand for our Goods abroad was greatest, but the Price of them, and of *unmanufactured Wool*, was highest, when the least Wool was exported unmanufactured.

L E T T E R

LETTER III.

11. As I observed, the War which hindered the *French* from having any *Quantities* of our *Wool*, raised the Price of it at home, and increased the Demand from abroad, for our *manufactured* Goods; and the Demand continued for three or four Years, so that we had a Sale for ALL that we made; but then, about 1707, the Prices of our Goods sunk; and *Wool* was fallen, from twelve and fourteen, to nine and eleven Pounds a Pack. I could not immediately discern the Cause of this Fall, but soon found that by Means of *French* Passes to be had for 3 *l.* each, from an Agent, as I remember at *Edinburgh*, Merchants were fallen into a Method of carrying *Wool* plentifully to *France*; and which explained to me the Reason of its falling (in 1709) to 8 *l.* 10 *s.* and 9 *l.* a Pack.

12. By these Methods, as well as by Captures, the *French* got a Quantity of our *Wool*, to mix with their coarse *Wool* (not worth above 2 *l.* or 2 *l.* 10 *s.* a Pack,) so that they were able, at a cheaper Rate, to supply foreign Markets which used to buy our Goods. Thus stood the State of our *Wool* and *Woolen* Manufacturies, in *Great Britain*, about the Year 1712. And thus it continued to decline, 'till the Plague broke out in *France*; at which Time, *Wool* was fallen to 7 or 7 *l.* 10 *s.* a Pack.

13. From 1712, to this Period 1719, or thereabouts, besides the *Wool* exported *wholly unmanufactured*, Numbers, Thousands of Combers were employed (a great many of them I myself knew personally) by the Papists in *Ireland*; which [combed *Wool*] they sent to *France*; and if any happened to be seized by inferior Officers, it was as constantly discharged, and suffer'd to go abroad. But the Plague above-mentioned, put a Stop to all Inter-course with *France*; during which Time, while they could get none of our *Wool*, it rose from 7, and 7 *l.* 10 *s.* a Pack, to 11 and 12 *l.* a Pack. Our Goods were again called for, as fast as we could make them; and we sold them at WHATEVER PRICE we thought fit to set upon them. THESE ARE UNDENIABLE FACTS, and THESE FACTS UNDENIABLY SHEW, not only the TRUE Causes of the Decay of our Trade, but the CERTAIN Method by which it may be redeemed.

14. Thus have I brought down my short Narrative of the *Rise* and Fall of the Price of *Wool*; of the Growth and Decrease of the *Woolen* Trade, to the ceasing of the Plague. After the Plague was over, and Commerce with

with *France* renewed, our Wool sunk again from 11 and 12 *l.* a Pack; and has since been gradually sinking, 'till it is now fallen to 4 *l.* 10*s.* or 5 *l.* a Pack. For Wool has been exported in much greater Quantities for several Years last past, chiefly occasioned by the Connivance or Neglect of Officers; and it is computed, that at this Time, *France* has of our Wool Yearly, 300,000 Packs; from which Computation I can demonstrate, that they get Yearly, while we lose Yearly the getting of 8,000,000 *l.* But if, according to Calculations formerly made, *Great Britain* and *Ireland* produce Yearly 800,000 Packs of Wool, which I believe is true; then *France* has Yearly from us 500,000 Packs of Wool. What shews my Calculation to be right, is this; I suppose no Body imagines any of our Wool to be destroyed. What is not manufactured at home, is sold to Foreigners. There can be no more manufactured, than what is combed, and scribbled, and carded; but there are not now a third Part of the Number of Combers, Scribblers, and Carders, in *England* and *Ireland*, which we had in the Year 1698; and even that small Number has not full Employment. From hence judge of the present flourishing State of the Woolen Manufacturies of our Enemies the *French*, and of the Riches arising to them from their Trade. The deplorable Condition of our own Manufacturies, with the dreadful Consequences of their Decay, it is very melancholy, but necessary to consider, as it is timely to repair.

LETTER IV.

15. If Wool was sold, at home, for 14 and 16 *l.* a Pack, when our Trade was in a flourishing Condition; and has continued to rise and fall, ever since, regularly, in Proportion to the Exports of our manufactured Goods; the present low Price of it shews the great Decay of our Trade. As I observed, it now sells, unless it be such as is made fit for manufacturing (and that may fetch 6 *l.*) for 5 *l.* and 4 *l.* 10*s.* per Pack; from whence it is evident, that we have not one third Part of our Wool manufactured at home, or one third Part of the Quantity of Goods carried to *foreign Markets*, which we formerly had; and might have again carried thither, if the Exportation of our unmanufactured Wool was effectually prevented.

16. But, which is the worst of all, That the *French* get the Trade which we lose, is undeniable; because, whenever we have been at Variance with them, and they could not get our unmanufactured Wool, our Trade has been quick and great. These Facts already cited in this Narrative I know to be true. And therefore, in the Room of Officers, who, besides

their Liableness to Corruption, are very expensive to the Nation, I have offered my Scheme of an universal Registry.

A Scheme to prevent the Exportation of unmanufactured Wool.

Mr. Webber's Scheme.

17. It is humbly proposed, 1. That a Registry be established in every Parish throughout *Great Britain* and *Ireland*. The Officer for that Purpose to be as shall be thought proper by Parliament. The Charge of registering, from one Pack to any Number, if one Man's Property, to be but Two-pence, and for Permit, Two-pence. 2. All Sheep Masters in Hours after Sheering their &c. on Pain of shall repair to the Register of the Parish, and give a true Account of the Number of Fleeces and the Weight, &c. to be register'd to his Account, with a Duty of 5s. a Pound (which is about the Value * of the Labour to manufacture it) and there remain chargeable till sold; and before the Property is altered, on Pain of to Buyer or Seller, to repair to the Register's Office of that Parish where bought, and register it to the Buyer's Account, with the same Duty, discharging the former Proprietor; and if altered out of the Parish, to take the Register's Permit: And so from Hand to Hand, as bought and sold, 'till it is made appear that it is thoroughly manufactured, and then to be fully discharged. 3. All Felmongers to do in like manner †.

C H A P. CXLII.

Mr. Webber's Narrative examined.

MR. Webber, in his several Letters, of the foregoing Chapter, undertakes to give a History, from his own Personal Knowledge, of the Price of Wool in England, and of the State of the English Wooten Trade, from the Peace of Ryswick (1697) to the Year 1739; and in order to be the more clear and circumstantial, has divided that Tract of Time into seven distinct Periods; 1. At, or rather before the Peace of Ryswick. 2. From the Peace of Ryswick to the breaking out of the second French War (1702). 3. From 1702 to 1707. 4. From 1707 to 1712. 5. From 1712 to the breaking out of the Plague in

* Will Mr. Webber, as a Manufacturer, say, that this is any Thing near the Case upon a Medium? (See Ch. 132. §. 5. Note.)

† This is the Substance of Mr. Webber's Scheme of Registry; the rest is Form, or the Method of executing it; in which there seems to be no Thought taken concerning the proper Proof, from Time to Time, of Wool being thoroughly manufactured; which is the grand Point of all.
France.

France. 6. During the Time of the Plague there. . 7. From the ceasing of the Plague in France to the Year 1739.

From the supposed Occurrences of which several Periods, he has laid down one Maxim as an invariable Truth: 'That^h the Price of Wool in England has^h Ch. 141. ' constantly rose and fallen regularly, in Proportion to the Exports of our §. 15. ' manufactured Goods.'

I propose to examine his Narrative, according to the several Periods into which he has divided it, and to put his several Assertions to the Proof; whence it may be judged, whether he really formed his Hypothesis (as he says) upon his own Knowledge and Observation of the Facts by him alledged, or whether he invented those Facts, to serve a favourite Hypothesis of his own.

NUMB. I.

First Period, viz. At the Peace of Ryswick, i. e. (to make Sense of him) during the first French War.

1. Mr. Webber's first Assertion. Little or no Wool was exported i. ^{i See Ch. 141.}

2. For Proof, The Reader may be pleased to turn back to certain Passages §. 6, 7. in this Collection, cotemporary with the Events here mentioned by Mr. Webber; and which therefore may be looked upon as Evidence very fit to be confronted with his Testimony; altho' he undertakes to give the same, not from others, but of his own Knowledge.

3. The Statutes 1 W. and M^k. c. 32. for the better preventing the Export-^k Ch. 72. tation of Wool, recites, 'That former Laws in this Case had not been duly §. 3. ' observed; but that great Quantities of Wool had been exported through ' Neglect of Officers, &c.'

4. Mr. Coke¹, 'Tho' the French had assisted the Irish above three Years¹ Ch. 74. ' [after the Revolution] yet it may be a Question, whether they did not §. 2. Note. ' gain more by their Trade with Ireland for Wools, &c. than their Ex- ' pence, for carrying on the War against the English, amounted to.'

5. The Author of the Tract intitled, *The Linen and Woollen Manufactory discoursed* (1691^m) assigns for one Reason of a then supposed Decay in the^m Ch. 75. Woollen Trade of England, 'the Increase of the Woollen Manufacture §. 8, 9. ' in neighbouring Countries, by the Help of English and Irish Wool, ' and was of Opinion, that the way to retrieve that Trade, would be, ' to prevent the Exportation of Wool;' which, though to that Time not effected, yet, he thought, might be done.

ⁿ Ch. 76.
§. 2.

6. *Another Author, in 1694*, 'The first Grievance, I humbly offer to
' Consideration, is, the *Exportation of Wool to France and Holland*; which
' Practice is so well known, that I need not spend Time to make any Dis-
' covery; whilst of 3000 Packs of *long Wool*, supposed to grow annually
' in *Rumney Marsh*, it is credibly believed, that 2000 of them are carried
' into *France*.'

^o §. 14. Note.

7. *The Statute 7, 8 Will. III. c. 28. ° viz. Anno 1695, for the more effectual
preventing the Exportation of Wool, and for encouraging the Importation there-
of from Ireland, recites, ' that notwithstanding former Laws, the Exporta-
' tion of Wool was still continued.'*

^p Ch. 78.
§. 5. Note.

8. *The Statute 9, 10 Will. III. c. 40. ° viz. Anno 1697, (the Year of the
Peace of Ryswick) for the Explanation and better Execution of former Acts
made against Transportation of Wool, recites, ' that notwithstanding several
' Laws made to prevent the Exportation of WOOL, yet nevertheless, the
' said Exportation was NOTORIOUSLY CONTINUED.'*

^q Ch. 85.
§. 6. Note,

9. *A. D. 1698—9 °. Upon the Report of a Committee (Sir Rowland Gwyn
Chairman) the Commons resolved, ' that a destructive clandestine Trade
' had been carried on DURING THE WAR, and that the same Vessels which
' imported Alamodes and Lutestrings, exported GREAT QUANTITIES OF
' WOOL.*

^r Ch. 88.
§. 7.

10. 'During the late War, one *Roach of Yaughal*, brought nine Ships
' laden with WOOL, &c. into the Port of *Nantz*; at another Time, four
' Ships laden with Wool, &c. at the same Port.'

11. *A. D. 1695, 1696. ' I had an Office that occasioned my being
' alternately on our South Coasts opposite to France, from Kent to Cornwall;
' and in all these Countries, tho' in Time of War, I found Plenty of French
' Wine and Brandies, &c. and was credibly informed that Wool paid for
' it; and I perceived that French Passes were easy to be had in Time of
' War.'*

*The pernicious Practice discovered, of selling Wool to Foreigners, &c.
printed 1743. (p. 2.)*

12. *Mr. Webber's second Assertion. The Woolen Manufacturies were in
a very flourishing Condition, during this Period, of the first War with
France.*

^s Ch. 141.
§. 2.

13. *Proof: Dr. Davenant, in his Essay on the East India Trade (printed
1696-7)*

1696—7) *says*, 'there' happening of late a great Call for Woolen Manu-^{Chap. 79.}
'factures, &c.' §. 13.

14. 'The Interruption which the War brought to the Tillage, Labour
'and Manufactures of other Countries, produced a great Call from abroad
'for our Commodities.'

Davenant of the publick Revenues 1698. Part 1. pag. 220.

15. 'Not only now, but during the whole War, our Product and Manu-
'factures have sold well at home and abroad.' *Part 2. pag. 56.*

16. [During the War] 'The Landlord received his Rent duly, the Far-
'mer sold the Product of his Land at a high Rate. Wool, &c. bore a
'great Price, and, which was of Consequence, the Manufactures of the
'Kingdom went on chearfully.' *Pag. 166.*

17. *Mr. Webber's third Assertion.* Wool, in this Period, yielded the
Sheep Master from 12 to 14 and 16 l. a Pack^u.

^u Chap. 141.
§. 2.

18. *Proof:* Besides what we have seen from Dr. *Davenant* (§. 16.) Tra-
dition favours this Account, in regard to some Part of King *William's* Reign.

And as that appears^w not to have been the Case, after the Peace of *Ryfwick*,^w so it is to be concluded, that Wool was at the highest Price in *England*, no-
minally at least, during the first War, and that, for the following Reasons,

^w See
Numb. II.
§. 5, 6.

besides the clandestine Exportation of Wool, as already^x shewn, viz. 1. The
great Havock made of the Sheep in *Ireland*, during the War there (1688-91)^y

^x §. 3—11.
^y Chap. 82.

2. An extraordinary Rot, probably, in *England* (*Anno* 1692^z) 3. The
bad State of the Silver Coin^{*}, which made a Guinea equal to thirty Shil-

^z Chap. 75.
§. 14.

lings; and, with all this, a Competency of good Trade^a, foreign and do-
mestic.

Note. A. D.
1692.
^a §. 14, 16.

So that, in regard to this first Period, Mr. *Webber* has chiefly failed, only
in asserting that Wool *was not* exported^b, as in after Times; and that^b
therefore it was *dear*, viz. from 12 to 14 and 16 l. a Pack. Whereas there^b

^b Chap. 141.
§. 6, 7.

is more room to think that it was *dear*, as *one Cause, by reason of its being so*
MUCH exported.

* 'The Product of our Lands hath bore a very considerable Price for seven or eight Years
'last past, occasioned by the Badness of our Coin, &c.' (See Chap. 86, §. 1.)

'Tis true, the Price of Gold, and Badness of our Silver Coin^f, did influence [the Price of^f
'Wool, &c.]

^f See Ch. 76.
§. 10. *Note.*

Davenant of publick Revenues, Part 2. (pag. 166.)

NUMB. II.

Second Period: From the Peace of *Ryswick* (1697) to the breaking out of the second *French War* (1702.)

^c Chap. 141.
§. 6, 7.

1. Mr. *Webber's first Assertion*: FRANCE^c getting Wool and Hands from Ireland, it was the Beginning of the Growth of their Manufacturies.

^d N^o. 1.
§. 4. -- II.

2. *Proof*: It has appear'd already^d, that the Runnage of Wool to France, was not a new Practice at this Period, nor the Woolen Manufacture a new Business there.

^e See Chap.
50, 51, &c.

3. Mr. *Webber's second Assertion*. 'The English Woolen Trade declined'.

^f Chap. 141.
§. 7.

4. *Proof*: There have occurred two clear and positive Testimonies to the contrary. 1. The Woolen Exports from England (1699) amounting^e to 2,932,292 l. 17 s. 6 d. which exceeded all that were before or after, to the Year 1713, (the Time of the *British Merchants* writing,) and which Year therefore was pitched upon, to shew in the strongest Light, the Advantages to England, by prohibiting Trade with France. 2. We are further assured

^g Chap. 87.
§. 4. Note.

by the *British Merchant*, that after^h the Peace of *Ryswick*, 'the Demand for our Woolen Goods was then so great in Spain [particularly] that Colchester Bays rose from 17 d. to 23 d. per Ell.' Againⁱ (says he) 'let any one look back to the Peace of *Ryswick*, and he will find, that notwithstanding we had been in Amity with Spain during that War, and carried on a Trade with some Difficulty, by Convoys and Runners; yet, on that Peace, as soon as we were able to go free, and Freight and Insurance were easy and reasonable, all English Goods, proper for the Spanish Markets, advanced considerably.'

^h Chap. 104.
§. 6.

ⁱ Chap. 108.
§. 1. Note.

5. Mr. *Webber's third Assertion*. Wool fell from 14 and 16 to 9 and 11 l. a Pack.

^k Chap. 141.
§. 7.

6. *Proof*: Dr. *Davenant*, in his *Discourse of the publick Revenues*, dated 1698 (Part 2. pag. 413) estimates the Wool of England at 28 s. per Tod, or 12 d. per Pound, upon an Average. A Pamphlet, dated in the same Year 1698^l, containing, 'The Substance of the Arguments offered, at the Bar of the House of Lords, for and against the Bill for prohibiting the Exportation of Woolen Manufacture from Ireland to foreign Parts,' in an Estimate, which we are to suppose was offered at the Bar of the House on that Occasion (and with a View to represent the Difference, at that Time, between the

^l Chap. 84.
§. 23.

Price

Price of *Englisb Wool in England*, and of *Irish Wool in Ireland*, and how much cheaper the latter was than the former) makes 9 d. a Pound the then medium Price of *Englisb Wool in England*. But the aforementioned Book of Dr. *Davenant's*, from which I transcribe, though dated 1698, appears by a written Memorandum, to have been presented by the Author, To *Robert Harley, Esq;* Jan. 14, 1697. And in the Body of the Book it is said to have been wrote about the Months of *September* and *October* preceding.

So that upon the whole, we may conclude, that in 1698 (when the Affair of the *Irish Woolen Manufacture* was before the *House of Lords*) 9 d. a Pound was a medium Price for *Englisb Wool in England*, as 12 d. a Pound, had been, some little Time before. And for which Fall in the Price of Wool, may be assigned, as Reasons, 1. The Regulation of the Coin; by which, *Guineas* had fallen to their old Value, of 21 s. 6 d. 2. *Ireland* was again in full Stock. And, notwithstanding the Woolen Exportations had increased, yet we shall prove by a stronger Instance (*Ann. 1737—8^m*) that the Price of Wool in *England* is not so much governed by the Quantity of Woolens exported, as Mr. *Webber* says it is, and as has been commonly imagined. ^{m Chap. 176.}

So then, Mr. *Webber* is mistaken, in concluding a Decay of the Woolen Exportation Trade, and an excessive Exportation of Wool in the second Period, from a Fall in the Price of Wool, during the same.

NUMB. III.

Third Period, viz. From the Commencement of the second *French War* (1702) to 1707.

1. Mr. *Webber's first Assertion*: The *French* were at a Loss for Wool: They ^a had little or none but what they took with their Privateers. ^{n Chap. 141.}

2. *Proof*: 1. *A. D.* 1702^o, The Queen recommended to the Parli- ^{s. 8.}
ment the preventing the Exportation of Wool*. 2. Captain *N. P* in *June* ^{o Chap. 83.}
1704, being a Prisoner at *St. Malo*, and having the Liberty of the Town, ^{s. 3.}
saw great Quantities of Wool brought thither. There were given to the ^{p s. 7.}
Lords in Parliament, in 1704, an Account of many Ships then in the Port
of *Rocheb*, *Nantz*, and *Bordeaux*, laden with Wool, &c. 4. Mr. *Crawley*,
Register of the Court of Admiralty, had many Informations of the same
Kind. 5. In *April* 1705, several Prisoners, *Irishmen*, taken by Sir *George*

* Hence it seems, as if the Government did not think with Mr. *Webber*, that there was but little Wool exported at this Time.

Byng in a *French* Man of War, being examined, confessed a constant Trade and Practice, as is before-mentioned. 6. A *Scotch* Writer, *J. Spruel*, *A. D.* 1705, says, 'There has been no little Money exported, and paid for Wool into *England*, and this again exported into *Holland*, besides what is exported of our own Wool; insomuch, that I am credibly informed, that there is above 10,000 *l.* worth Sterling of Wool lying over the Year in *Holland*, unsold; and yet here many is buying, and exporting it, this Year also.'

3. 'In *Ireland*, *Ann.* 1702 to 1705, I perceived a more general and open Exportation of Wool to *FRANCE*.'

The pernicious Practice discovered, of selling Wool to Foreigners, &c.
Printed 1743, (pag. 3.)

4. Mr. *Webber's* second Assertion: Trade was very good in this Period, particularly in the Year 1703.

5. Proof: The whole Exports from *England*, *Ann.* 1703 (when according to Mr. *Webber*, the Woolen Trade of *England* was at the highest) amounted nearly, but not fully, to the whole Exports of 1699.

6. Mr. *Webber's* third Assertion: Wool rose again from 9 and 11 ^u to 12 and 14 *l.* a Pack.

7. Proof: I have not met with any positive Evidence touching the Price of *English* Wool in *England*, at this Period, except in one Instance (to be mentioned presently) viz. in the Year 1706.—But it appears from Mr. *Spruel* ^w above-mentioned (N^o. 3. §. 2.) that about the Years 1704 and 1705, Wool of *Scotland* was sold by the Store-Masters there, for 9 and 10 *l.* Scots per Stone, viz. 30, and 33 *s.* 4 *d.* Sterling per Tod, at 16 *lb.* to the Stone. This, there is Reason to think, was an advanced Price, occasioned, in some Measure, by an Act ^x passed August 1704, in the Parliament of *Scotland*, allowing the Exportation thence of Wool and Skins. As to the single Instance, of the Price of Wool in *England*, *Ann.* 1706, it was but 17 *s.* 6 *d.* per Tod, from the same Farm ^y, which in 1717, had 1 *l.* 3 *s.* per Tod.

So that Mr. *Webber* seems to have mistaken Things again, in concluding the Woolen Trade to have been considerably better in this Period, and the Exportation of Wool proportionably less, than in the last; because in some Part of it, Wool gave a better Price; whereas the Woolen Trade of this Period, though good, was not, in all Probability, more than equal to the former at the best; and the clandestine Exportation of Wool from *England*,
by

by Reason especially of the Fracquair * with Scotland, must be thought to have exceeded, for a Season, what had been practised, ordinarily, at other Times. Chap. 88.
§. 8. Note.

N U M B. IV.

Fourth Period: From 1707 to 1712.

1. Mr. Webber's first Assertion: Merchants fell into a Method of carrying Wool plentifully into France, by French Passes obtained from Edinburgh^a.

^a Chap. 141.
§. 11.

2. Proof: I shall not say this is not true; but more probably it was most the Case, in the last foregoing Period, while England and Scotland were in a State of Disagreement on many Accounts; and while the People of Scotland, not being bound by the English Laws, nor entitled to the same Privileges with English Men, in Trade, were more at Liberty, as well as more inclined to make their Country a Back-door for the Passage of English Wool beyond Sea. But the Union commencing May 1, 1707^b, the Case was somewhat altered. We may also here remember, what has been mentioned before^c, from a Book intitled, *A Tour through Great-Britain*.

^b Chap. 91.
§. 8. Note.
^c N. B.

3. Mr. Webber's second Assertion: Wool^d fell to 8 l. 10 s. and 9 l. a Pack.

^d Chap. 141.
§. 11.

4. Proof: It fell considerably lower. Wool, of the same Farm, which in 1706^e, sold for 17 s. 6 d. was sold in 1707, for but 16 s. 6 d. and in 1711, for 13 s.^f. And Wool, which upon the Peace, advanced to 18 s. was, during this Period, sunk to 15 s. per Tod^g; therefore,

^e N^o. 3. §. 7.
^f Chap. 171.
N^o. 1.
§. 1, 2, 3.
^g Chap. 109.

Mr. Webber's Mistake in this Period, seems to be, his assigning a wrong Reason for the Price of Wool falling, in supposing (as the Cause of that Fall) an Excess of clandestine Exportation; when more probably, that Practice received an extraordinary Check by the Union; and the Wool of Scotland being no longer tolerated to pass beyond Sea, a Part thereof, which was wont to be so disposed of, did actually recoil upon England.

P. S.

N U M B. V.

Fifth Period: From 1712 to the breaking out of the Plague in France (which was in 1720.)

1. Mr. Webber's first Assertion: Besides the Wool exported^h unmanufactured, Thousands of Combers were employed by the Papists in Irelandⁱ [which combed Wool] they sent to France. Chap. 141.
§. 13.

2. *Proof*: 1. 'The Decrease in the Exports of Wool from Ireland to England, from the Year 1711 to the Year 1714, was 362,983 Stones; which, it is more than probable, found its Way into France'. 2. An Act^k for the more effectual Prosecution of the Persons exporting Wool. 3. *Geo. c. 21.* 3. Aug. 22, 1717. An Order^l of Council issued, requiring the military Officers on the Coasts, to assist those of the Customs, in preventing the Exportation of Wool.
3. Mr. *Webber's second Assertion*: The Price of Wool^m continued to decline, 'till the Plague broke out in France.
4. PROOF (OF THE PRICE OF WOOL DECLINING, in this Period, from Mr. *Webber's own Knowledge*) viz. Wool of the same Farmⁿ, which in 1714, sold for 13 s. per Tod, was sold in the Year 1714, at 18 s. 1716, at 19 s. 1717, at 1 l. 3 s. 1718, at 1 l. 2 s. 3 d. 1719, at 1 l. 2 s. 1720, at 1 l. per Tod. Will Mr. *Webber* call this continuing to decline? Or, in this last Assertion, has not he taken very nearly the Reverse of Truth? But, I suppose, this appeared best to suit his Hypothesis.

N U M B. VI.

Sixth Period: During the Time of the Plague in France.

1. Mr. *Webber's first Assertion*: FRANCE could get none of our Wool^o.
2. *Proof*: This has been said^p by many, as also, that a great Share of the Irish Wool, which before that Time, used to be carried to France, was at this Juncture, brought to England; and that consequently the English had more Wool and Yarn from Ireland than at other Times.
3. Mr. *Webber's second Assertion*^q: Our Goods were called for as fast as we could make them, and we sold them at whatever Price we thought fit to set upon them.
4. *Proof*: Much has been said^r to this Effect, by many other Writers; and the Woollen Exports were actually more in 1721, 1722—3—4, than in 1718^s—1719.
5. Mr. *Webber's third Assertion*: WOOL^t rose from 7 and 7 l. 10 s. to 11 and 12 l. a Pack.
6. *Proof*: Wool DID NOT rise in Price, at this Juncture^u; but on the contrary, it fell; and consequently Mr. *Webber's* darling Hypothesis falls, and the whole Credit of his Narrative along with it.
- I shall take another^w Occasion to shew how, and why, this egregious Falsehood, the supposed Advance of Wool in England, during the Effects

of the Plague in *France*, has since been so far adopted for a material and fundamental Truth, as that, but by a particular Chance, followed by a reasonable Detection, it must have passed upon the present Age, and to future Generations, with a Doctrine built upon it, flattering, indeed, the Humour and pre-conceived Opinions of the People, but tending only to continue them under a very gross Deception (derived from their Fathers) and to entail the same upon their Posterity.

N U M B. VII.

Seventh Period: From the ceasing of the Plague in *France*, to the Year 1739.

1. Mr. *Webber's first Assertion*: Wool sunk again from 11 and 12*l.* a^u Ch. 141. Pack, till in the Year 1739, it was fallen to 4*l.* 10*s.* and 5*l.* a Pack. §. 14.

2. *Proof*: The Price of Wool, at the Time of the Author's Writing, it was as impossible for him to mistake, as it would have been vain in him to have misrepresented very much.

The Plague broke out at *Marseilles*, June 1720. It raged near two Years in that City, and the Province of *Languedoc*; which brings us down to the Year 1722. But it may be considered, that the Effect thereof, in regard to the Trade and Manufacture of that City and Province, could not be supposed to cease with the Distemper. Allowing then but two Years more for the re-peopling of that Part of *France*, and for the re-instating, in any tolerable Degree, the Manufactures and Trade thereof; that brings the Account to the Year 1724: By which Time, *English Wool* in *England*, was fallen considerably from the Prices of 1719, and 1720; lower than it was ^{w See} from 1728 to 1733, though not quite so low, as from 1735 to 1742 ^{Ch. 171.} inclusive. ^{No. 5.}

3. Mr. *Webber's second Assertion*: Wool has been exported in this last^x Ch. 141. Period, in much greater Quantities than at any Time heretofore. *France* §. 14. gets certainly 300,000, but more probably, 500,000 Packs of Wool yearly, from *England* and *Ireland*.

4. *Proof*: It is impossible to ascertain the Measure of a Practice, which in its Nature must be secret. And tho' it is not to be doubted, but that the illicit Trade was carried on in this Period, as in others, in some Degree; yet, I think, this Affair has been much exaggerated by Mr. *Webber*, and that the Medium he has pitched upon, though conclusive, if true, will not make good this his second Assertion; which Medium is.

^y Ch. 141.
§. 14, 15.

5. Mr. Webber's *third Assertion*. There are not a third Part of the Number of Combers, Scribblers, and Carders, in *England and Ireland* (1739) which were in 1697. Consequently, the Woolen Manufacture of *England and Ireland*, is so much decayed; and two Thirds, at least, of the Wool grown in *England and Ireland*, are in Course exported, unmanufactured.

6. *Proof*: This Assertion, whether true or false, is very extraordinary; as requiring the most implicit Believe imaginable; since he has not vouchsafed to give the least Shadow of a Reason, to induce his Readers to think, that he himself had so much as the Means of knowing any Thing nearly, the whole Numbers employed in this Way, either in 1697, or in 1739, or at any other Time.

² 1745.

^a Ch. 171.
No. 5.

^b Ch. 176.
§. 36, 40.

^c See
Ch. 171.
No. 5.

^d See
Ch. 87. §.
4. Note.

How far the *Woolen Manufacture* was really decayed at this Time (1739) I am not able to say. It is well known that very great Complaints were made on this head, and that there were sundry Applications to Parliament on Account thereof. Nevertheless, by Custom House Accounts ² since then, exhibited to Parliament, it appears ^a, that *Ann.* 1737—8, the very Instant when these Complaints became loudest, the *English Woolen Exports* were more than one Fourth greater than in the Year 1699 ^b; which Year had exceeded all others, to the Year 1713, the Time of the *British Merchants Writing*; nor was this a Year so far, by Chance extraordinary, but that the five subsequent Years ^c (each of them) exceeded that great Year of Woolen Exportations, 1699, and, most of them, considerably.—Consequently, the Decay of the *English Woolen Manufacture*, (if indeed there was any) must have been, as before ^d, in 1699, so now (1739) not in what is called the *Woolen Exportation Trade*, but in the *home Consumption of Woolens*.

P. S. In this Year passed, as follows, viz. *An Act for taking off the Duties upon Woolen and Bay Yarn imported from Ireland to England, and for the more effectual preventing the Exportation of Wool, from Great Britain, and of Wool and Wool manufactured, from Ireland to foreign Parts.* 12 Geo. II.

C. 21.

This Act recites several Duties upon ' Woolen and Bay Yarn imported ' from *Ireland*: and that taking off the same, may be of Use to prevent ' the exporting of Wool and Woolen Manufactures from *Ireland* to foreign, ' Parts, and may be of Use to the Manufactures of *Great Britain*; and ' therefore enacts, that the Payment of the said Duties be discontinued.' It recites further, ' That whereas, notwithstanding the several Laws made to

‘ prevent the Exportation of Wool unmanufactured from this Kingdom and Ireland to foreign Parts, such Exportation is NOTORIOUSLY * CONTINUED.’ And therefore enacts, ‘ That all Wool, Yarn, or Woolen Goods exported from Ireland, shall be shipped off at certain Ports only in Ireland, to certain Ports only in England; and that only in such Ships and Vessels as shall be of the Built of Great Britain or Ireland, and wholly owned and managed by the Subjects of the same. The Person claiming Property therein to register the same, and take an Oath, or if a Quaker, an Affirmation, &c. and to receive a Certificate of so doing &c.’ (for which see the Act at large, containing 34 Sections.)

C H A P. CXLIII.

Extracts of Letters, &c.

N U M B. I.

Daily-Post, Thursday Feb. 21, 1740.

Extract of a Letter from Dublin, dated Feb. 9, 1739—40.

1. **T**HE House met on the 28th of January, which was the Day appointed to take the Woolen Affair under Consideration, but adjourned to that Day seven-night, on Account of the Severity of the Weather, and then adjourned again till the 8th of February; when a Motion was made, *That a Permit, under proper Regulations, would be conducive to prevent the clandestine Exportation of the Wool.* The Debate was managed principally by the Prime Serjeant, the Attorney General, and Solicitor General, in Favour of the Motion. The opposite Party all joined earnestly in expressing their Abhorrence of this Practice, so injurious to both Nations; but

* Thus, after racking the Invention both of the People and Parliament, for near 80 Years, viz. from the Restoration (1660) to this Year (1739) it stands here confessed upon Record, that the Practice in this Case, designed to be prevented, was still *notoriously continued.* And upon a Supposition, that it would prevent the Exporting of Wool and Woolen Manufacture from Ireland to foreign Parts, by increasing the Importation of Wool and Yarn from Ireland to England, this Act was passed. But (besides what Mr. Webber said, viz. ‘ The Woolen Manufacturers’ *P. S. to his short Account.* ‘ justly observed, this Act would not prevent the Exportation of OUR unmanufactured Wool.’ *Ch. 171.* We shall see that it did not increase the Importation of Wool and Yarn from Ireland to England. *No. 5.*

urged,

*A Computa-
tion of the
Wool of Ire-
land.*

*The English
cannot work so
cheap by 16
per Cent. as
France or
Ireland.*

urged, from a Computation which had been made with great Accuracy, and was acquiesced to by all Parties, that the Evil was much less than passionate, ignorant, and interested People had represented, particularly, on the other Side of the Water. This Computation was, that 1,000,000 Stones of Wool were grown in *Ireland* [a Stone of Wool in *Ireland* is 16 lb. or thereabouts] which amounted to one Third of the Rents of the Kingdom; of which 700,000 were consumed at home, 150,000 exported into *England* in Wool and Yarn, 50,000 exported in Manufacture to foreign Parts, and 100,000 in raw Wool: That whatever some might think of the Damage done to the Woolen Manufacture of *England*, by the 50,000 Stone of manufactured Wool exported from *Ireland*, it was far from being a Loss to that Nation; since that Branch of Trade, which was carried on only at *Lisbon*, would be carried on by the *French*, if *Ireland* was deprived of it; the *English* not being able to work those Stuffs by 16 per Cent. so cheap as either *France* or *Ireland*; and that this appeared evidently from what had lately happened in *Ireland* upon the Reduction of the Coin; which having raised the Price of the *Irish* Woolen Goods near 3 per Cent, the *French* had already deprived us of one Half of that Trade, and yet the *English* had not sold one Bale of Goods the more. That the real Loss of *England* and *Ireland* therefore, in this particular of *Ireland*, was singly to be computed from the 100,000 Stones of raw Wool clandestinely exported; which at seven Shillings per Stone, the greatest Price it could be computed at, amounted but to 35,000 l.; which though when manufactured abroad, with the Addition of foreign Wool, was undoubtedly a great Loss to both Nations, could by no Means be reckoned the Cause of the Decay of the *English* Manufacture. That therefore other Causes must be sought, which must either be the immense Quantities exported clandestinely from *England*, of which we could not pretend to form an Estimate; or the high Rents of Land, and other Inconveniences which affected the Commerce of that Country.

2. They then inveighed bitterly at the Passion, which had ever been shewn against this Country, in *England*, where the Majority sought our Ruin, from Prejudices that possibly had some Foundation, when *Ireland* was in Popish Hands and in an opposite Interest; but cruel, when there was no Difference in our Interests, civil or religious, and when the Nation was in the Hands of the Offspring of their Families. They said that this Passion had, in every Instance, hindered the *English* from seeing their true Advantage, which certainly was, to consider us as the *same People*; and

and in a general Consideration to make Use of us in Trade, as Merchants made Use in private Commerce of the poorest and cheapest Manufacturers. That we had now, for near one whole Century, suffered the heaviest Restraints upon every Branch of our Trade; insomuch, that it was well known, that no Man could see one Third of that Profit from his Fortune, which he might do, if our Government was upon an equal Footing. That if these Sufferings were calculated truly to maintain the Interest and Prosperity of *England*, we were so much concerned in its Welfare, and so sensible of the Right of all Nations, who have the Power to enforce their own Advantage before that of others, that we could endure it all without Resentment; but that it was a Severity of the most galling Nature, to be thus sacrificed to false Maxims, and the Pursuit of Schemes grounded upon nothing but on the Prejudices and Ignorance of the State of this Country, and so destructive to the whole, that *England* as well as *Ireland* would inevitably be ruined by it.

3. That this being the Case, it would be absurd in us to saddle ourselves with new Officers and new Powers, which were always abused in a scandalous Manner in this Country, from the Weakness of our Government, and the Authority of those who are set over us, without any Knowledge of our Interests or Constitution, and commonly without any Qualifications, but that of making hasty Fortunes out of the Publick; and who could, and always did, screen themselves from any Complaints by their Interest on your Side of the Water. That the Thing proposed had innumerable Inconveniences in it in any Shape; that it subjected Men to many Inconveniences of an *Excise*, which their Neighbour Country had with great Reason lately opposed, tho' you were much more able to prevent the Abuses of those employed in it than we are; that it would create a slavish Dependance on little People, which would induce all Men to court them, to prevent the Effects of their malicious Informations, or to connive at their *Male Practices*, which would *inevitably be continued* by the Corruption of those employed to prevent them. That it would be surprizing if the People of *England* themselves should wish a Regulation, which would only Increase the Influence of Places and Employments, which operated upon the Mother Country, wherever they were established; nor could they imagine that *England* could think it reasonable for us to bring a State of Slavery upon ourselves, without a Prospect of preventing any Evil: But that if it was our Fate to be destroyed,

stroyed, it was a less Crime for a Nation to receive its Ruin from a Violence imposed upon it, than to be the *Felons* of its own Constitution, and to destroy itself; and that they were certain, the Means of that Violence, if ever it should be exercised on us, either by civil or military Means, would retort with a dangerous Force upon the Promoters of it.

^h Ch. 142.
P. 8.

4. They then earnestly entreated those who urged the Motion, to withdraw it, and to concur in a Representation, to the Government, of the true State of the Wool and Woolen Manufactory; and to give the most sincere and solemn Assurances that every Man, both in a publick and private Capacity, was truly sensible of the Evil, and fully resolved in every Way that was possible to prevent it; but at the same Time, to shew that NO METHOD but *Indulgence* could effect it; to desire, if possible, that Means might be used to try the Effect of the late Act^h for the Importation of *Irish* Yarn to *England*, for one Year or two, before it should be repealed; because they were confident it would have a considerable Effect; and finally, to *insist in the strongest Manner*, upon a Permission, to manufacture in such Goods as might be thought proper, the Quantity of 100,000 * Stones of *Irish* Wool, which, as they had seen, was the Quantity clandestinely exported; and that the Permission of this Quantity would so effectually engross all that Wool which created the Complaint against this Country, that there would not remain afterwards the Possibility of any material Injury to be done by us to the Woolen Trade of *England*.

5. And thus by an Indulgence of only 150,000*l.* per *Ann.* in this Commerce, which that Quantity of Wool worked up, might amount to, the *French* and other foreign Nations would be deprived of twice as much; it being well known, that they add at the Rate of two Pounds of their own Wool to any Quantity they can obtain from *Ireland*; by which Means there would be an immediate and demonstrable Gain to *England* of 300,000*l.* Worth of Woolen Manufactory, besides the 150,000*l.* allowed to *Ireland*, the Profit of which would likewise center in *England*.

6. The Debate was carried on with the greatest Decency, and the most sincere Disposition to the general Advantage, that ever I observed in this Parliament; and it was at length agreed by all Parties, (after we had sat six Hours,) at seven in the Evening, to adjourn 'till *Monday*, to give Men

* He should have said (to have been consistent with himself) 150,000 Stones, because so much he had allowed to be at present clandestinely exported, manufactured and raw. (See §. 1. *A Computation*, &c.)

more Time to consider maturely of this important Affair; which was the more necessary, because those that made the Motion were either not well prepared to open all the Consequences, or thought Matters not ripe enough to discover the whole of their intended Scheme.

7. I am very sensible that some wise Politicians on your Side, will think that the Opposition to this Motion proceeded from our Insincerity, to do any Thing to prevent the clandestine Exportation of our Wool; but I can solemnly answer for myself, and so I may venture to do for the whole House, that there is nothing so earnestly desired here as to prevent this Evil, by any safe and reasonable Means; for we are all sensible that it is, if possible, more ruinous to us than to *England*; for we never receive one Shilling in Return for the Wool thus exported; we are repaid in *French* Brandies and *Aigre* Wine, which is run in upon our Coasts without Duty, and hurts the Revenue to that Degree, that we are under the greatest Difficulty to maintain the present Establishment, which yet we cannot do, without running considerably in Debt. But there is yet a greater Evil in it, which is the private Correspondence carried on between the *French* and the Papists in our remote Counties, which may extremely hazard, in an unfortunate Conjunction, the Security of the Protestant Interest in this Kingdom; an Interest, which you know how much it is our peculiar Business to support, as all our Fortunes depend upon it.

I shall add nothing more at present upon this Head, but will certainly acquaint you with the further Progress of this Affair.

NUMB. II.

Daily-Post, Feb. 25, 1740.

Dublin, Feb. 14.

S I R,

I promised to acquaint you with the further Proceedings of our Parliament in Relation to the Wool. This Affair has taken a short unexpected Turn, and is dropped, I believe, for this Session. The Question proposed, was, *That a Permit, under proper Regulations, would be conducive to prevent the Exportation of Wool.* Hereupon, after great Debates, it was moved, that the Regulations hinted at, should be made a Part of the Question; which the Promoters vehemently opposing, the House fell into Heats, and the Chairman left the Chair, without asking Leave to sit again.

VOL. II.

Q

NUMB.

N U M B. III.

Daily-Post, Feb. 28, 1740.

To the Author, &c.

S I R,

1. It is universally allowed by all who have any Notion of our Staple Trade, that the Decay of it is owing to the Exportation of *Irish* Wool to *France*, and that this is occasioned by *Ireland's* being shackled and confined in its Trade; which consequently lays it under the greatest Temptations to carry on these illegal Practices.

¹ Chap. 142.
P. S.

2. The *British* Parliament hath lately made a Law¹, to prevent such illicit Trade, and thereby taken off the Duties from raw Wool, and Yarn, imported from *Ireland* to *England*. So far, this Act is undoubtedly wisely calculated to answer the End intended; but by a particular Clause in this Act, which Sir *John Barnard* greatly opposed, the whole is rendered insignificant. *Ireland* still lies under its former Confinement, with regard to manufactured Goods; THEREFORE, an *Irish* Parliament will never pass this Law in the Shape that now it is in; consequently it will never be executed, and therefore avail nothing.

3. From the Conduct of the *Irish* Parliament then, it is plain, that *Ireland* is determined to dispose of its manufactured Goods to the best Advantage it possibly can, and therefore will not pass a Law that so severely prohibits the Exportation of them; from whence we may easily infer, that whilst the *Irish* are thus cramped and fettered, they are resolved to carry on a contraband Trade, though never so destructive to the *English* Nation.

4. And supposing the Parliament of *Ireland* could be prevailed upon to pass this Law, unless the *Irish* were to receive some Encouragement in this Affair, it would assuredly be to no Purpose; for *where a lucrative Trade presents itself, the most penal and coercive Laws have always proved insufficient to restrain Mankind from the fair Temptation.*

5. It remains then, I humbly conceive, in order to obtain our Desires, that *Ireland* be allowed to import her manufactured Goods into *England*, but under such Duties as shall bring them upon a Par with the *British**.

6. Nothing

* If such Duties are laid upon the Woolen Manufactures imported from *Ireland* to *England*, as will bring them upon a Par with the *British*, the *French* will still be able to under-sell us,

6. Nothing but Harmony and Unanimity amongst us, nothing but a mutual Trade and Commerce established between the two Nations, can possibly shut out the grand Enemy, and compleatly accomplish this desired Work. It is not my single Opinion, that it would be vastly conducive to the Interest of both Nations, if all the Ports of *England* and *Ireland* were open for Trade, under the Conditions above-mentioned¹. And when such¹ §. 5. just and natural Privileges are granted to *Ireland*, (which will certainly be the only effective Means of securing the Woolen Trade to ourselves) *England* may undoubtedly have the Pleasure of seeing *Ireland* willing to shake Hands with it, and ready to embrace and execute such Measures as the *British* Parliament shall think wholesome and salutary for the Preservation of both.

N U M B. IV.

Daily-Post, Feb. 29, 1740.

To the Author, &c.

S I R,

1. Whether the *Irish* export more unmanufactured Wool to foreign Parts than the *English* do, is likely to remain a controverted Point. The latter affirm, that the greatest Blow to our Woolen Manufactory comes from *Ireland*; and the *Irish* are no less positive that *England* runs more Wool to *France*, and other foreign Countries, than they do. But let that be as it will, it is nothing to the present Purpose, nor can the Quantities clandestinely exported by both Nations be certainly known: The Question is now, what must be done to recover the Woolen Trade.

2. As the Case stands, the *English* cannot recover it, (though they might have preserved it by good Management) because their Labour is too high,

us, because they can afford to give a much higher Price for Wool than the *English* Manufacturers, on account of the Cheapness of their Labour, and their working up one Third of our Wool with two Thirds of their own. Besides, the *French* have large Stocks of *English* and *Irish* Wool by them, sufficient in all Probability to keep up their Manufactory, for three Years at least; and whenever they find themselves debarred from the Wool of *Ireland*, by the Proposal above-mentioned, they will bid high enough to procure large Quantities of it from *England*, and chuse rather to carry on the Trade without any Profit at all, than let it drop. In which Undertaking, they will not fail to receive all possible Encouragement from their Court, to support them under these Difficulties, 'till we grow weary of carrying *Irish* Manufactures to foreign Markets upon a Par with our own.

We ask our Correspondent's Pardon for making this Remark upon his Letter, which we don't doubt is wrote with a sincere Desire to serve the Nation.

and their Taxes too heavy on the labouring Part of the People ; for, supposing that the *Irish* should bring over to us all that Wool which they now sell to Foreigners, the *French* would nevertheless find Means to get enough of that Material from *England*, and by the Cheapness of their Labour, as well as their working up our Wool with twice as much of their own, they would still have it in their Power to undersell us in foreign Markets.

2. The only Remedy then to this Evil is, to leave the Woolen Trade, or, at least, great Part of it, open to *Ireland*. Experience has taught us, that the more the *Irish* are cramped in that Article, the more it redounds to the Advantage of the *French*, our most formidable and inveterate Enemies. —

4. By the Folly, not to say the Injustice of *England*, *France* has rivall'd us these many Years with a Witness, in the *Spanish*, *Portugal*, *Italian*, and *Levant* Trades, besides the great Vent she finds for Woolen Goods in the *Austrian Netherlands*, and some Parts of *Germany* : This prodigious Increase of Trade has raised her to such a Pitch of Grandeur, that she is become more terrible than ever to her Neighbours. —

5. The *London Gazette* tells us, that *France* is contracting with the *Danes* to furnish her with Salt Beef : Whether she expects that the *Irish* will breed more Sheep, and consequently furnish her with greater Quantities of Wool, when they find the Demand for black Cattle decreases, a little Time will shew us. However it be, it is certain, that since our Rupture with *Spain*, *France* has a much greater Demand upon her for Woolen Goods ; and if her Contract with the *Danes* does not procure her larger Supplies of Wool from *Ireland*, it will serve at least to curry Favour with *Denmark*. The *French* have always more than one String to their Bow. —

6. In short, Sir, it is high Time to think of doing something to destroy the Woolen Manufactures of *France* ; and until I see a better Scheme offered for that Purpose, I must persist in my Opinion, that the safest and most effectual Means to destroy it, is, to take *Ireland* into the Union, and allow that Kingdom a FREE TRADE, or at least a *very extensive one*.

7. As soon as the *Spaniards* see us take the Business in Hand, they will sue to us for Peace, and let *France* become the Dupe of her own Schemes. But supposing that her Catholick Majesty should be so obstinate as to prefer the Gratification of her own Views, to the Interest of the *Spanish* Nation, these three Kingdoms, when under one and the same Form of Government, will

will be able to baffle all the Attempts of the House of *Bourbon*, and bring her down to our own Terms in a very few Years.

8. As to the Balance of Power in *Europe*, it will then be the immediate Concern of the Princes and States on the Continent to take Care of it; and if they should want our Concurrence, we may engage in their Measures upon very easy Terms: But whatever becomes of the Balance of *Europe*, by the Supineness of any of our Neighbours, I will venture to say, that the Union of the three Kingdoms will make us entirely Masters of the Balance of Power in *America*.

9. This, Sir, is what I think absolutely necessary to recover our *Woolen Trade*, and give new Life to some of our Friends abroad, who seem dejected at the over-grown Power of *France*: But whenever we go about this Business, I am humbly of Opinion that no *Blackwel-Hall* Factors, nor *Woolen Manufacturers*, need be consulted, for Reasons which are obvious to every Man of Sense.

I am, Sir, &c.

G. A. P. B.

10. Since I have finished this Letter, I have read, with the utmost Concern, the Account * of the Proceedings in the Parliament of *Ireland*, relating to ^{Nº. 1, 2.} the Wool, but shall make no Remarks upon them, for several Reasons; nevertheless, I can't help concluding with the following Queries.

11. Whether it is not more eligible to let the *Irish* share with us in the *Woolen Trade*, nay, to throw even all our Trade into their Hands, than to raise up *France* upon the Ruins of the whole *British Empire*?

12. Whether those foreign Princes and States who are uneasy at the exorbitant Power of *France*, will not be very backward in forming any Alliances with us to reduce that Power, if they see us neglect the Means which can do it most effectually?

13. Whether the late Motion * in the Parliament of *Ireland*, was not ^{Nº. 1. §. 1.} made with a Design to make ignorant prejudiced People here think, that it is entirely owing to the Obstinacy of the *Irish*, that no Stop can be put to the clandestine Exportation of Wool?

N U M B. V.

NUMB. V.

Daily-Post, March 7, 1740.

To the Author, &c.

S I R,

P N^o. 3.
§. 5. Note.

1. There being a seeming Objection^p to a Letter in your Paper of the 28th of last Month, we shall endeavour to give it an Answer.

See N^o. 3.
§. 5. Note.

2. We allow the *French* may under-sell us, if they can possess our Wool; and possibly they may have *English* and *Irish* Wool sufficient to support their Manufactory for three Years to come. But when their present Stock is consumed, how will they obtain more? Why, we are told, 'that when the *French* find themselves debarred from the Wool of *Ireland*, by our Proposal, they will bid high enough to get large Quantities of it from England, &c.'

N^o. 3. §. 5.

3. The chief Point in Question then seems to be, whether 'tis possible to keep our Wool from *France*. The Author of the Objection seems to allow, that by our Proposal^r, the *French* will be debarred from our *Irish* Wool; we would willingly ask then, why not from the *English*? The same Laws will be in Force in *England* as in *Ireland*; and we have but little Reason to imagine they will be better executed in *Ireland* than in *England*. And if the present Laws, after being well executed, should prove insufficient to exclude our Seducers, we are pretty confident, with a hearty Concurrence of *Ireland*, that such Measures may be embraced and executed, as will effectually do the Business.—We believe such a Method hath already been proposed, without yoking or galling the Woolen Interest in the least.

N^o. 3.
§. 5. Note.

4. But supposing we cannot stop all the Channels, whereby our Wool is conveyed to *France*, is it not highly incumbent on us to block up as many as possibly we can? The Author of the Objection allows of our Proposals being a Means to distress the *French*; if so, 'twill undoubtedly be no ill Policy in us, to subject them to all the Difficulties and Disadvantages we possibly can.

5. As to '*France chusing*' rather to carry on the Trade without any Profit 'at all, than to let it drop,' 'tis, we imagine, not to be credited, that People can carry on a Trade with such Spirit and Vigour, without Profit, as with it; and though they may at first make a Stand, and struggle hard for it, it will assuredly in Time decay and dwindle to nothing.

6. And

6. And how sanguine soever the Court of *France* may appear in this Affair, we believe it will grow weary of supporting its Subjects under such Difficulties and Disadvantages, as it must be liable to, before we shall grow weary of carrying *Irish* Manufactures to foreign Markets upon a Par with our own.

7. We would beg Leave to ask the Author of the Objection*, if he thinks our Woolen Trade is irretrievably lost? If not, we thinking him sincerely attached to the Interest of these Kingdoms, hope he will lay down some easy and familiar Scheme, better calculated to answer the End intended, than the before mentioned Proposal *.

N^o. 3. §. 5.

N U M B. VI.

Extract of a Letter from a M——r of P——t to the Author of these Memoirs, 1745.

S I R,

1. I should sooner have answered yours, had I not been in Hopes of having it in my Power to write more to your Satisfaction. The H—— of C——ns have been so very inattentive to the Business of Wool, (*it being a Subject no way concerning the Landed Interest*) that the C——t——e has not sat above twice or three Times, and then, not thirty M——s present, where they did nothing but

* Since our Correspondent desires us to lay down a Scheme to retrieve the Woolen Trade, we refer him to the plain Method proposed in the *Daily Post* of the 29th past; which we think the only one practicable in this ticklish Conjunction. For as all Nations have a Right to make the most of their own Product, it is very much to be feared at this Time of Day, the *Irish* will not come into any Measures for retrieving the Woolen Manufactory, unless they are allow'd a direct Exportation to foreign Markets; and if they won't, how can Britain compel them, while she has her Hands full with the *Spanish War*? The People of *Ireland* are sensible that England cannot destroy the Commerce of *France*, without their Concurrence; and can any impartial Man blame them for striving to be admitted to equal Profits, in bringing about an Event, on which the Preservation of the *British* Nation depends? When the WHOLE GLOBE can be supplied with valuable Woolen Goods ONLY from *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, the *English* Manufacturers need not fear the want of Employment, there will be Work enough for both Kingdoms; and it is evident, that the greatest Part of the Gains of the *Irish* will center here at last.

N^o. 4. §. 3.

Had our Correspondent's Proposal been made to the *Irish* about a dozen Years ago, it would have been accepted, but it is somewhat too late now; for the more our Trade decays, the higher will they rise in their Demands; because, as I have observed, we cannot recover it without their Assistance.

(N^o. 4. §. 2.)

We were unwilling to say so much in our Paper of the 28th of the last Month, (See N^o. 3. §. 5. Note.) but since our Correspondent returns to the Charge, we cannot help speaking plain. However, if his Scheme be thought practicable, we don't doubt but the Legislature will soon put it in Execution; and then the Success of it will soon decide who is in the Right.

2. L———

2. L——— Son to ——— (and who has a considerable Estate in *Ireland*) tells me, 'He is very sure there is but little Wool run from that Kingdom;' which he makes out in the following Manner.

3. 'In the Year 1699, when *Ireland* was first prohibited from exporting their Woolen Manufactures,' (and he supposes they sent all their Wool into *England*, besides what was used for their own Consumption) 'there was, for some Years, annually imported into *England*, 360,000 Stones of Wool at 16 lb. per Stone; now, 100,000 Stone;' admits the same Quantity grown there now, as at that Time, and that there remains to be accounted for, 260,000 Stone; which is done as follows, viz.

' By Increase of Inhabitants, 800,000 Souls (in the Year	
' 1700 there being only 1,200,000, now 2,000,000) at	
' four Pounds of Wool per Head ———	200,000 Stone
' 100,000 Pounds worth of Manufactures clandestinely	
' run, which at five Times the Price of the Wool, con-	
' sumes 20,000 l. worth of Wool, or at 10 s. the Stone	40,000 Stone.
' By the same Calculation then, at 10 s. per Stone, there is	
' now annually run 10,000 l. worth of Wool, or ———	20,000 Stone.
	—————
	Total. 260,000 Stone.
	—————

N U M B. VII.

Sept. 1740.

G. M.

1. A Correspondent in *Ireland* has acquainted us with some Proposals made in that Kingdom, neither unworthy of Notice, nor the Imitation of Gentlemen of Fortune, &c.

2. The first which we shall mention, is made by the Reverend Dr. Madden, who, in order to encourage a Spirit of Improvement among other Benefactions, hath given the annual Sum of 100 l. to be distributed to the Inhabitants of *Ireland* only, by way of Premium in the following Manner, viz. 50 l. to the Author of the best Invention for improving any useful Art or Manufacture, &c. which shall be approved of, as such, by the *Dublin Society*, on or before the 20th of *January* next, and so every Year.

3. The Second is by the said *Dublin Society*, who, in order to promote such useful Arts and Manufactures, as have not hitherto been introduced in that

that Kingdom, intend to encourage by Premiums, annual Contributions or other Methods, any Persons who are well skill'd in such Arts and Manufactures, and will carry them on, in the most skilful Manner; and have invited Gentlemen or Others, conversant in Husbandry, Trade, or Manufactures, to favour them with their Advice, that they may be better enabled to judge what Improvements are to be encouraged, &c. for the Benefit of the Public.

NUMB. VIII.

Remarks on certain Passages in some of the foregoing Letters.

1. *As much of the Arguments contained in some of the foregoing Letters, is of a Piece with what we have before had, over and over again: So I shall not descant thereon particularly in this Place; but content myself with remarking on some few Things therein, as given for Facts; only first, by the Way, observe of Letter, N^o. I. That supposing it to be the genuine Epistle of a Member of the Irish Parliament, it is very extraordinary, that he should say, 'That they' (the Irish) because restrained in the Article of Woolens to foreign Parts, 'had suffered the heaviest Restraints in every Branch of their Trade,' after so great Indulgence shewn, and Encouragement received from England in respect of their Linen Manufacture, and that (according to all Writers on this Subject) at the Expence of some Part of the English Woolen Trade to certain foreign Countries.*

2. *The Concessions of England to Ireland, in regard to the Linen Manufacture, thus plainly standing for nothing, it is the more credible (which this Letter-Writer says) 'That the Male-Practices of Ireland with regard to Wool, would inevitably be continued,' notwithstanding any Indulgences from England, save that of a free Woolen Trade.*

3. *But granting them a free Woolen Trade for 100,000 Stones; and this same Person tells us, 'the Irish would sincerely endeavour to prevent the Exportation of Wool;' yet should I doubt, even in that Case, both the Sincerity and the Success of such Endeavours; because, under the Monopoly, of an absolute Prohibition, a lucrative Trade would still present itself; in which Case, this Gentleman has said, and I think, very truly, 'that penal and coercive Laws will avail little.'*

4. *It is to be farther noted, that this Letter^b speaks with Confidence of^b No. 1. §. 4. the extraordinary Effects to be expected from the Act^c (12 Geo. II. c. 21.)^c Ch. 142. P. S.*

By which I suppose him to mean, that greater Quantities of Wool and Yarn would certainly be imported from *Ireland* to *England*, in Consequence of that Act, than afore-times, This. indeed, was the Plea made for the Bill; and upon that Supposition, it passed. And how has it answered in the

^d See Ch. 126. §. 10. (C.) Event? From 1726 to 1729^d inclusive, were imported from *Ireland* to *Eng-*
land, in Wool and Yarn, upon a Medium, each Year 132,398 $\frac{1}{2}$ Stones

^e See Ch. 171. No. 5. From 1741 to 1744^e inclusive ——— 128,911 Stones

Less in the Period, since the Act (12 Geo. II. c. 21.) than in
that before. ——— 3486 $\frac{1}{2}$ Stones

5. Again, with regard to some other Facts, as according to this Letter
(No. 1.)

^f See (No. 1. §. 5.) A Com-
putation. ' The whole Quantity of Wool[†] produced Yearly in *Ireland*, at 16 Pound
to the Stone, is 1,000,000 Stones.

' The whole Value at 7s. per Stone is ——— 350,000l.

This, the Letter Writer says, is ' one Third of the whole

' Rents of all *Ireland*.' So that the Rent of all *Ireland*

(we are to believe) is not more than ——— 1,050,000l.

And consequently, the whole Rents of *Ireland*, are not more than equal to
the whole Rents of *Yorkshire* †.

6. But it being incredible that the Rents of the whole Kingdom of *Ire-*
land should not very much exceed the Rents of *Yorkshire*: And the Wool
of *England* being heretofore accounted equal to one Fifth of the Rents of
England: And the Stock of *Ireland* consisting more, in Proportion, of Sheep,
than the Stock of *England* does: Consequently, it being the more probable
for that Reason, that the Wool of *Ireland* is equal to one Third of the
Rents of *Ireland*; HENCE it is credible, that the Wool of *Ireland* does very
much exceed || 1,000,000 Stones.

7. However

† The Land Tax of *Yorkshire*, when at 4s. per Pound, is 91,514l. 3s. Which being ge-
nerally accounted to be much less, upon a Medium, than 2s. per Pound *, of the real Rents of
Yorkshire; it is supposed that the said real Rents of *Yorkshire* do exceed a Million per Ann.

* ' The great Counties of York, &c. pay about one Shilling and Six-pence.' Essay on the Ine-
quality of our present Taxes, 1746. pag. 13.

|| ' *Ireland* contains near half as much Territory as *England*——and may be brought to pro-
duce near half as much Wool as *England* yields.' An Essay on the Balance of Trade, &c. pag.
80. By Dr. Davenant, 1700.

* *Ireland*

7. *However*, let us see the Disposition which our Letter Writer makes of these supposed 1,000,000 Stones of Wool yearly growing in *Ireland*; whence, and from other Circumstances, it may be better judged, whether or no that be indeed the whole Quantity; and *we should* the rather examine it, because, he says, it was a *Computation made with great Accuracy*¹, and ^{No. 1. §. 1} *acquiesced to by all Parties.* <sup>A Computa-
tion.</sup>

8. <i>This Computation</i> supposes to be used in <i>Ireland</i>	—	700,000 Stones.
To be exported to <i>England</i> , in Wool and Yarn	—	150,000
In Manufacture, to foreign Parts	—	50,000
In raw Wool	—	100,000
Total		1,000,000 Stones.

9. <i>Next</i> , let us see the Computation of another <i>Irish Gentleman</i> (No. 6.) who supposes 2,000,000 Souls (the present Number in <i>Ireland</i>) to consume of Wool, at four Pound <i>per</i> Head, 8,000,000 Pounds, which at 16 Pound to the Stone, is	—	500,000 Stones.
Imported to <i>England</i>	—	100,000
In Manufacture, to foreign Parts	—	40,000
In raw Wool	—	20,000
Total		660,000 Stones.

10. *According to this latter Computation*, to make up the whole Quantity of 1,000,000 Stones, as by the Computation of (No. 1.) there wants to be accounted for, 340,000 Stones, which (if the one was true, as to the whole Quantity produced, and also the other, as to the home Consumption, and the Importations to *England*) must be looked upon, as *so much* exported clandestinely, more than our second *Irish Political Arithmetician*² is ^{No. 6.} willing to bring to Account.

11. *But, besides what we have seen already*³ to induce us to believe, that ^{§. 6, 7.} the whole Quantity of Wool produced yearly in *Ireland*, does far exceed

¹ *Ireland* has about one Third of the Number of Inhabitants of *England*, and near a Fourth in the Value of Lands. *Essay on the Inequality of our present Taxes*, 1746. (pag. 32.)

² I compute that the yearly Rents of Lands [in *England*] are eighteen Millions. (pag. 33.)

1,000,000 Stones: And whatever may be the whole Quantity yearly produced in that Kingdom, there are Reasons for thinking that neither of these Gentlemen compute rightly the Quantity of Wool exported, raw or manufactured, from *Ireland*.

12. *The former* (No. 1.) will allow but 300,000 Stones to be produced in *Ireland*, more than serves for their home Consumption. The latter (No. 6.) admits that after the Year 1699, when *Ireland* was first prohibited from exporting their Woolen Manufacture, the spare Wool of *Ireland* for some Time, was 360,000 Stones and NO MORE. (So much being brought to *England*, and none, as he would have it believed, at that Time carried elsewhere. He admits further ^k, contrary to what Mr. *Dobbs* hath ¹ See Ch. 126. §. 30. advanc'd about the Decrease ¹ of Sheep in that Kingdom, the same Quantity of Wool to be grown there, as formerly. And indeed it is natural to suppose rather more than less.

13. *But in Contradiction to both these Opinions*, touching the spare Wool of *Ireland*; and to induce us to believe (notwithstanding the pretended Accuracy of their Computations) that the spare Wool of *Ireland* (when in full Stock) was then, and is now, more than 300,000 Stones (according to No. 1.) or than 360,000 (according to No. 6.) we are to remember what has occurred before, *viz.* that in 1687, when the *Irish* Woolen Manufacture was at the highest, there was imported to *England* in

^k Ch. 126. §. 8.	Wool and Yarn, at 18 lb. to the Stone,	—	264,260 ^k Stones
	which at 16 lb. is	—	292,792 Stones.
¹ Ch. 126. §. 9.	Also in 1697, when the Woolen Trade of <i>Ireland</i> was again grown considerable, the Wool and Yarn imported thence to <i>England</i> was, at 18 lb.	—	231,158 ¹ Stones
	which at 16 lb. is	—	260,052 Stones.

14. 'Tis true, the Medium, of Wool and Yarn imported from *Ireland* to *England*, from 1700 to 1703 inclusive, was — 361,491 ^m Stones. And there is a double Account to be given of this Increase beyond the Years 1687, and 1697. *First*, the Discouragement which the Woolen Manufacture of *Ireland* had received in 1699, by the Stat. ⁿ 10, 11 W. III. c. 10. *Secondly*, the Stock of Sheep in that Kingdom had probably increased very much; and probably, in Proportion, much more than the Number of the People there. But to take for granted. that no Wool was used to be exported clandestinely from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, before the said Stat. 1699, is begging the Question extremely. On the Contrary, we find it as much

much a common Complaint in the general *, for forty Years at least, before, as it has been, since the Year 1699; and with regard to those particular † Years, 1687, 1697, and the Period 1700—3, we have seen Reasons to convince us, that, besides what was brought to *England*, Wool was exported from *Ireland* to foreign Parts, no less, then, than at other Times, before, and since.

Consequently, it is to be concluded that *Ireland* produces more spare Wool than according to either of these Gentlemen, and also sends out clandestinely, in Wool or Yarn, or Woolen Manufacture, more than they are willing to acknowledge. (See Ch. 126. P. S. particularly §. 30.)

* As to Complaints in general, on this Head, prior to the Year 1699, See Chap. 32. §. 18. Ch. 51. §. 2, 11. Ch. 55. §. 2. Ch. 57. §. 4. (Fig. 4.) Ch. 58. §. 12, 23. Ch. 61. §. 15. Ch. 64. §. 3. Ch. 66. §. 7, 21. Ch. 67. §. 5, 7. Ch. 75. §. 9, 13. Ch. 76. §. 2.

† As to the Year 1687, See Ch. 88. §. 7. Captain *Joseph Brooks*, &c.

For the Year 1697, See also Chap. 88. §. 7. Mr. *B. M.* And for the Period 1700—3. Captain *N*——. Again the Author of a Tract intitled, *Pernicious Practices discovered of selling Wool to Foreigners*, printed 1743 (p. 3.) gives this Testimony. ‘In *Ireland*, Anno 1702 to 1705, I perceived a more general and open Exportation of Wool to *France*.’

And thus we see, of what Use is this Collection of Memoirs towards ascertaining the Truth, or Falsehood, of Things occasionally mentioned and insisted upon, as the Ground or Foundation of some political System, relating to Wool, &c.

For Instance, the honourable Person (No. 6.) Heir to a great Estate in *Ireland*, as an Advocate for a free Woolen Trade from that Kingdom, endeavours to persuade us, that such a Liberty would effectually prevent the clandestine Exportation of Wool from thence; and to convince the English Gentlemen of this, he would have it believed, that the clandestine Exportation of Wool from *Ireland*, commenced since the Stat. in 1699, against exporting Woolen Manufacture from thence to foreign Parts, and by Reason thereof, and that it would therefore cease with the repealing of that Act; which is a Conclusion drawn from false Premises. St. *Petersburgh*, July 1740.

C H A P. CXLIV.

A Scheme for a Trade through Russia to Persia.

Captain Elton's Paper.

1. *A Paper* * was given to Mr. FINCH at PETERSBURGH by Captain Elton, relating to the opening a Trade through Russia to Persia.
2. Captain Elton delivered also a second Paper * to Mr. FINCH.
3. Mr. FINCH having transmitted these Papers to the Duke of Newcastle, his Grace, by the King's Order, laid them before the Commissioners of Trade, who made a Representation to his Majesty, which was followed by an Act of Parliament, viz.
4. *An Act for opening a Trade to and from Persia.* 14 Geo. II. c. 36 *.

C H A P.

* The Northern Provinces of Persia produce the most and best Sorts of raw Silk; which supplies not only the Manufactures of *Musbad* and the Southern Provinces, but, in a great Measure, Turkey.

Musbad, now made the Seat of the Persian Empire, hath almost drained *Ispahan* of its Inhabitants; and being not quite 14 Days Journey for the Caravan, from the Port of *Astrabad*, is a very lucky Circumstance for the British Merchants to Russia; who on this Occasion have it in their Power wholly to supply that Capital with European Commodities; particularly with Woolen Goods, which the Persians, from the highest to the lowest, all esteem, and that so much, that they wear Stockings of no Sort, but what are made of Woolen Cloth; and not only that Part of Persia might be served by British Merchants, but all the Cities in great and little *Bacharia*. In which it is evident they can have no Rivals, nor these Countries be supplied with European Commodities any other Way. It would be entirely a new Branch of Trade, and might shortly become a most important one; in which they could never be supplanted, so long as they can secure a Passage through Russia, and a Freedom of Navigation on the *Caspian*; both which it will ever be the Interest of the Sovereigns of Russia to grant to the Subjects of Great Britain. It would create a vast additional Consumption of our Woolen Manufactures, for which the Returns may be made in Gold, raw Silk, Cotton, fine Wool, Silk, Yarn, and other manufactured Commodities. It is also more than barely probable, that when the British Merchants shall have well established themselves in this Trade, in a few Years only, it must become a more beneficial Trade to Great Britain, than the Turkey Trade is at present; as in this Trade a greater Quantity of Woolen Goods may be vended at a better Price, and that to Countries where the British Commerce hath never yet been extended, or ever can be extended by any other Canal, than that proposed; and from whence may be imported, besides others, the very same Commodities the Turkey Company now imports into Great Britain, full Fifty per Cent. cheaper than they can do; and this last Consideration alone, surely might suffice to entitle the British Russia Merchants to the Freedom of importing such Commodities into Great Britain, although therein they should chance to interfere with the Privileges of the Turkey Company.

* Which contained an Account of the Privileges, &c. necessary to be obtained of her Imperial Majesty's Cabinet Council, in order to facilitate this new proposed Trade.

† This Act recites, 'That whereas it may be of Advantage to this Kingdom, to open a Trade to and from Persia, through Russia, by promoting the Consumption of Woolen and other Manufactures thereof, if raw Silk and other Goods of the Growth, Produce and Manufacture of Persia, be permitted to be imported into this Kingdom, from Russia, in Return for such Woolen

C H A P. CXLV.

The Consequences of Trade, &c. of the Woolen Trade in particular, &c.

By a Draper of London, &c.

1. **O**UR WOOL for Clothing is, to ALL THE WORLD, as much A NECESSARY of Life, as ANY THING ELSE, and more PECULIARLY the Growth of OUR OWN COUNTRY than any Thing; because, the middling Sort of CLOTHS, for the Use of the *Bulk of Mankind*, CANNOT be made *without it* (NOR ANY SORTS manufactured to any Perfection) and THEREFORE if we be wise enough to manufacture OUR OWN WOOL at Home, we MUST have the Serving of ALL THE WORLD with *this Kind* of Woolen Manufacture.

2. Let us enquire into the Nature of the Woolen Manufacturies, and we shall easily perceive how the Advantages of them come to be so superior to those of any other Branch of Business. The Riches of a Nation arise out of the Labour of the People exported to foreign Markets. If our People can be employed, and we can find Custom abroad for the Goods manufactured by them, then the more populous we are, the richer we are. But a Number of People unemployed, are a Burthen, as this Nation feels very sensibly at present. But if our Wool were kept and manufactured at home, all our People might be employed in the Woolen Manufacturies, and the Wages paid by Foreigners in the Purchase of the Goods. I shall give the Reader a small Specimen of the Number of Hands employed in manufacturing our Wool, which by Multiplication would shew him, how many the whole Growth of our Country would employ.

Woolen and other Manufactures, as shall be exported from hence into *Russia*, and from thence carried into *Persia*, and not otherwise.

And therefore enacts, That the *Russia Company* may import *Persian* Commodities, being purchased by Barter with *British* Manufactures, or with the Produce of such Manufactures exported to *Russia*, on the Oath of the Importer, any Thing to the contrary notwithstanding, in a Clause of the Act 12 Car. II. c. 18. — with Proviso against *Persian* Manufactures to be worn in this Kingdom.

N. B. It has been said in the publick Papers, that Captain *Elton*, the first Projector of this Scheme of Trade, being entrusted by some of the *English Russia* Merchants, with one or more Ships upon the *Caspian*, containing a rich Cargo of Goods for *Persia*, did run away with the whole; which by some later and more authentic Accounts seems not to have been true. And though the Project failed, through some wrong Conduct in him, yet did not the *Commissioners of Trade*, or the Legislature, mistake the *Thing itself*; which was well designed?

3. For

3. For Instance, three Packs of Wool manufactured into Broad Cloths, &c. on a moderate Computation, one Sort with another, employ 450 Persons a Week, (I might say a great many more, almost 600, but I am willing to keep within Bounds,) who upon an Average, will earn, each Person, 5 s. a Week, the whole amounting to 112 l. 10 s. Now the Growth of *Great Britain* and *Ireland* being above a Million of Packs, (as will be prov'd) if three Packs will employ 450 Hands, and their Labour produces 112 l. 10 s. a Week, any one that understands Figures may soon see how many a Million of Packs will employ, and how much they will earn in a Week.

4. I appeal now to the Gentlemen in the Silken Business, whether that can employ so many, and whether we had not better employ all the Hands we can spare, in the Woolen Manufacturies, and purchase Silken Goods manufactured, than manufacture them ourselves; forasmuch as the Labour of the Hands employed in manufacturing Wool, would be more than we should give Foreigners for their Labour in manufacturing Silk. Besides, the Silken Goods that we make at home, are only for our own Consumption; consequently, none of them being exported, no Profit can arise to us from the Labour employed in them.

5. To shew this Matter in another Light; the highest Price that Wool bears at present, is 5 l. a Pack; the Product therefore of twenty Packs exported to *France*, unmanufactured, will be no more than 100 l. But twenty Packs in King *William's*, and Queen *Anne's* Reign, when we manufactured it ourselves, sold for 12 to 16 l. a Pack. Taking it at the lowest, at 12 l. a Pack, which Price Wool would again yield the Sheep-Master, in three or four Years Time (if the Exportation of it were stopped) the twenty Packs which now sell for no more than 100 l. would sell for 240 l. which makes 140 l. Difference to the Sheep-Master only. The Labour in manufacturing these twenty Packs, at 3 s. each Pound of Wool upon an Average, (though it really comes to 5 s.) amounts to 720 l. So that the whole Loss to the Nation, is 860 l. in every twenty Packs that are exported unmanufactured. But this is not all. The 100 l. which the *French* give for these twenty Packs of Wool, is not paid in Specie, but in Silks, Brandy, &c. Duty free. Now if we lose, and give the *French*, in every twenty Packs of Wool exported to them unmanufactured, 860 l. what must be the Consequence of giving them so many 100,000 Packs, as we give them yearly?

6. But

6. But the Profits arising from the Woolen Manufacturies will be further set forth under the next Head of Enquiry, from a Calculation of Mr. London's.

Mr. London computes, that all our Wool and Labour that goes abroad, does not amount to above fourteen Millions * Sterling. How much larger they were in 1698, any one may imagine, from what Mr. Webber has testified upon his own Knowledge, (pag. 17. of his five Letters.) He tells us there, that at *Bristol Fair* only, in eight Days Time, the *Dutch* and *Spanish* Merchants and Factors, bought above 150,000 Pounds worth of Woolen Goods, besides what was carried from *Bridgewater* in a *Dutch Dogger*. Upon which he observes very justly, that we have all imaginable Reason to think that *Minehead*, &c. sold proportionable Quantities for Exportation. We have none of those *Dutch* and *Spanish* Merchants and Factors going, as they used to do, to the Manufacturers Houses in the Country; they are forced to send their Goods to *Blackwell-Hall*, there to pay House Rent, &c. These known Facts undeniably prove a vast Decay of Trade.

7. The State of foreign Coin among us, of which we have none, unless it be *Portugal Money*, is another plain Proof, that by the Loss of our Woolen Trade, the Balance of all Nations is against us. In *France*, *English Guineas* are as common as *Portugal Pieces* are here. The present great Scarcity of our own Coin, and the Increase of the Number of our Poor^u, shews the same beyond Contradiction. Let any one examine particularly the State of those Towns, where the Woolen Manufactures have been carried on, and he will see the most flourishing Towns reduced to Beggary by the Loss of their Trade. It is possible, that in some few Places, the Woolen Business may have been lower than at present; but then it is not as high as it has been even in those Places; neither if it were otherwise, would a particular Instance or two signify any Thing to the general State of the Kingdom.

8. If we have lost our Woolen Trade, into what Hands is it fallen? Several Nations have come in for a Share of the Plunder; but *France* has the Bulk of it, as appears by Mr. Mun's Journal^w of the State of their Manufacturies in the Year 1732; which must be greatly improved since. And therefore, to shew at one View, our Loss and their Gain, I shall transcribe a

* Not above 14 Millions Sterling! If this Writer had consulted the *British Merchant*, in-^t See Chap. stead of Mr. London, he would have found that so lately as 1713, far from exporting to the Va-^{100.} §. 9. lue of 14 Millions in the single Article of *Woolen Manufacture*, ALL our annual Exportations to foreign Countries, both of our own and foreign Goods, did not amount to seven Millions.

Calculation from Mr. *London's* Pamphlet. According to a very modest Computation, the *French* have yearly 500,000 Packs of our Wool unmanufactured, with which they work up twice as much of their own. The immense Detriment arising from hence to us, and the still larger Profit accruing to them, he sets forth in the following Manner.

A Million Packs of Wool (for so much it computed to be grown here) as sold when confined to our own Manufactures	£.
at 16 l	16,000,000
The Labour and Profit in working it at such Times, at 40 l	40,000,000
Total	56,000,000

As now sold, suffered to go abroad	£.
The Labour and Profit of 500,000 Packs, manufactured under the Disadvantages mentioned, at half Wages, 20 l. per Pack	4,000,000
	10,000,000
Total	14,000,000

Is to our Disadvantage	£.	42,000,000
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besides what the landed Interest suffers by the Poor, and Rates made to maintain them. On the other Hand, *France*, by getting over 500,000 Packs of our Wool, can work up a Million and half; it being on all Hands agreed, that one Pack of ours is sufficient to work up two of theirs; and suppose we reckon but 35 l. a Pack for their Labour in working it, then the Labour of a Million and half of Packs, at 35 l. per Pack, amounts to 52 Millions and half Sterling. And that they do work up so much, may well be supposed; for they will certainly import no more of our Wool than is absolutely necessary for them *.

9. I have

* Here the *Draper*, to support his Allegations, enters into a Computation of the Quantity of Wool grown yearly in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; which he makes to be Packs 1,274,000, besides Vel Wool and that of Lambs. 'It appears (*says he*) by the *Toll Books*, that 36,000 Sheep and Lambs are brought weekly to *Smithfield*.'

From this he takes his Computation, as above; on which has been made the following Remark.

G. M. vol.
12. p. 2.

'But we are informed, the Sheep and Lambs brought to *Smithfield*, by the said *Toll Books*, on an Average, are no more, one Week with another, than 12,000. This, according to his own Method of calculating, will reduce our yearly Produce of Wool to less than 425,000 Packs. Yet

9. I have already computed the Profit arising from the Labour of manufacturing a Million of Packs only; shall here subjoin a Calculation of the Share Foreigners would pay of this Profit to us. Two hundred and fifty thousand Packs yearly, the fourth Part of our Produce, will cloath more than the Number of our Inhabitants are supposed to amount to. So that three Parts in four of our Manufacture would be exported, and bring home Money in Return, to the amount of no less than THIRTY MILLIONS, besides the Value of the Wool itself, which is reckoned at TWELVE MILLIONS more, in all amounting to FORTY TWO MILLIONS; all arising from one single Branch of our Trade; and far exceeding all the Branches of Trade, belonging to this or any other Nation. If therefore we were so wise and just to ourselves, as to preserve this Blessing, we might be the richest and most powerful Nation in the whole World. Page 12.

10. Some Gentlemen are of Opinion, that we might recover our Woollen Trade, by reducing the Price of Labour, &c. But why should we be at the trouble of contriving to go cheap to Market as the French, and have the Price of our Goods beat down, *when we can at once hinder them from going to Market at all, and by having the Market to OURSELVES, be able to fix OUR OWN Price?* But (*say they*) if it be thus necessary to prevent the Exportation of Wool, how can it be done? A Scheme of Mr. Webber's has been offered and approved as effectual. He has had a Charter granted him for putting it in Execution *; and only wants an Act of Parliament to confirm Page 17.

S 2

firm

* Yet (*says he*) the French get, on a moderate Computation, 500,000 Packs of our Wool yearly; he ought therefore to reconsider this Point.

* Total Number of Sheep and Lambs sold in Smithfield, taken from the Toll Books of the Years 1735, 1738. viz. Total 1735, 642,420; (1738) 610,180. Page 86.

* Tho' the Markets of these Years are not low, the Medium does not exceed 12,000 per Week; yet Mr. Webber has lately told the House of Commons, as his Friend the Author of *The Consequences of Trade, &c.* had before, the Publick, that 36000 Lambs and Sheep were sold, one Week with another, in Smithfield, and killed for the Use of the Metropolis. They are therefore desired to consider such a gross fundamental Mistake, from whence they calculate not only the People and Wool of Great Britain and Ireland, but the Loss of the Nation, and the great Benefit to arise from their Scheme.

* When the Petitions relating to this Affair were referred, as usual, to his Majesty's Attorney General at that Time (now the Lord Chancellor) for him to consider of them, and make his Report thereupon; he did accordingly certify to his Majesty, (after having had several of the Petitioners before him, as well as Mr. Webber himself) *That the Woollen Manufacture being the most beneficial and extensive of all the Manufactures of this Kingdom, and the Business of the Wool-combers being a very material Article of that Trade, carried on by great Multitudes of People, spread over all Parts of England, in Places very remote from one another, and in that respect scarce* Ld Hardwick's Opinion (when Attorney General) of a Registry for Wool by a possible Charter.

Page 26.

Page 27.

firm it, which has been promised him, but delayed from Time to Time. He has found out what no body else could contrive, though many have racked their Inventions ever since Queen Elizabeth's Time. And are 28 Millions lost by us every Year, and above twice as much gained by our Enemies, such a Trifle, that we can safely let Session after Session slip, without putting a Stop to this Evil? In the Name of every Thing that is sensible and prudent, what can the People of this Kingdom mean? Am I warm? The Cause deserves it. Our ALL is at Stake, and if lost, can never be retrieved. If I have exaggerated, let any one shew it, and I dare promise to throw away my Pen, and engage never to get another to disturb the Publick with.

11. That this Pamphlet may not be unknown, I am determined to circulate at my own Expence, at least, a Thousand of them, and if any one, after reading it, shall be disposed to give away any in proper Places, he shall have half a Dozen at half Price. Whether the Citizens of London, or any others of Ability will follow my Example, and give any Thing towards saving their Country from Ruin they only must determine.

12. P. S. *To put the most candid Construction upon this Performance, The Draper, &c. (for I have omitted much that was inflammatory and reflecting) Here is an Appearance of the greatest Zeal, and the least Knowledge upon this Subject, that can possibly be shewn or imagined; but,*

As this Author builds the least of his Errors and Extravagances upon Mr. Webber, whom I have considered, there is less Occasion to spend Time in remarking upon him (the Draper of London.) It is sufficient to observe that this Tract, being calculated to raise the Passions of the People; and therefore industriously spread throughout the Kingdom, did produce in the next Session of Parliament, so many Applications, in Reference to the Business of WOOL, as gave rise, to a Committee; the Result whereof was, A Report, ' That the Exportation of Wool could not be prevented by any Thing less than an universal Registry.' A Scheme for which Purpose was ordered to be prepared by the Lords Commissioners of Trade, &c. But while this was doing, the following Letter appeared in Public.

' possible to be reduced under one general Management; and no Experiment having hitherto been made of putting any Branch of this important Manufacture into a Corporation to extend throughout England, the attempting whereof might be attended with Consequences which could not be foreseen, he was humbly of Opinion, that it was not adviseable for his Majesty to grant such a Charter as was desired. Thus a Stop was put to that Affair.'

Remarks upon Mr. Webber and the Draper, 1741. p. 36.

13. Sir,

13. Sir, 'The Petition of the Lord Mayor, &c. and Petitions from many other Places presented to the House of Commons, praying them to take into Consideration, *the clandestine Exportation of Wool*, have been referred to a Committee, Mr. Webber called in, and asked several Questions; several Objections have been made to his Scheme, or Method; in general, that it is not practicable, A Manufacturer * has published a just Observation in the *Daily Advertiser*, in which he says, *A Clause in the late Act for preventing the exporting Wool (said to be obtained by Mr. W——r) binds the Exportation of small Skains or Cruels, under pretence that they are capable of being reduced * into Wool; by which 10,000 Persons are reduced unto Beggary, and great Sums lost to the Nation. For a Pound of Wool is but 6 d. which thus manufactured, amounts to from 3 to 5 s.; and how it could be reduced to Wool †, to any Profit, is a Mystery*.' G. M. vol. 11. p. 107.

'Another Scheme to keep our Wool at home, was offered to Parlia-

* 'As to Skains or Cruel Yarn, it is impossible to reduce it to Wool: It is doubled, twisted and twice thrown up on the Mill, then scoured and dyed; nor can any other Use be made of it, than that to which it is applied in the Nunneries abroad. It is sent away in small Skains ready to work up with the Needle. I was informed that some of it, which was seized and sold to a Weaver at the Custom-House, proved disadvantageous to him, for he could neither make Warp nor Woof of it for any kind of Stuff. And as it is sold in France for 7 s. per Pound, I would be glad to know what Sort of Wares can be made of Yarn, which before the weaving, costs so much. There should be Liberty to export that Commodity, provided two or three Searchers were appointed on Oath, at the Custom-House, to examine the Worsted at some publick Hall in London, on an appointed Day, once in a Week, and to receive one Half-penny per Pound for their Trouble. As to unmanufactured Wool, I know no Method so proper as to send all by Land, except Irish Wool or Yarn: and that should be sent in Register Ships belonging to the Crown. The Freight to be settled, and Certificates taken of the Lading in Ireland, and Landing in England.'

Your humble Servant,

Benjamin White.

'P. S. Mr. Webber and Mr. London declared before the House of Commons, that neither the Officers of Excise nor Customs would faithfully discharge the Trust, and therefore were improper Persons [to have the Care of preventing the Exportation of Wool.]

I suppose Mr. Webber might think it necessary to say thus much, with a View of thereby introducing himself, and Patentees of his Nomination, into that Trust. But supposing it true, that the Officers of Excise and Customs were false to their Trust in the Case of Wool, it shews a Temptation to be so. And therefore the Objection holds equally against Patentees, as against any other Persons. See Ch. 55. For though one Man may have more Integrity than another; yet to affirm that one Class of Persons are better to be trusted than another Class in like Circumstances, is extreme Arrogance.

† Upon whatever Reasons the Parliament might see proper to insert a Clause for prohibiting the Exportation of Cruels, I cannot think it was from an Opinion that those Cruels could be reduced to Wool again; with any Profit especially. Neither do I imagine, that, as a Reason for prohibiting the Exportation of common Yarn or Worsted, they thought it capable (when once fairly spun) of being unravelled into Wool again, with any Advantage; for even that is a most absurd Notion; and yet it is not only too generally swallowed, (and it serves to give a very false Idea of the Properties of English and Irish Wool) but it is what some who would be thought to be most knowing expressly give into; and particularly Mr. Lowndes in his Scheme * printed 1745. * Page 13. By Order of the House of Commons.

'ment,

'ment, signed S. M. which proposes to appoint *Warehouses throughout this Kingdom and Ireland, to receive all the Wool, also Clerks to register it, &c. with a Tax of 2 s. a Week upon every Loom towards the Expence of the same*. To this it is objected, that it would require an immense Sum, and after all, only embrace Trade. The Means therefore of accomplishing this great End are yet undetermined; and as the Importance of the Affair deserves the closest Attention, it is hoped that every Man, whose manner of Life has enabled him to obtain any Knowledge of it, will communicate his

^a See Ch. 127. Opinion^a.

§. 1, 2.

This Letter, with many foregoing Circumstances, produced the following SCHEMES.

C H A P. CXLVI.

A short View of several Schemes, 1740--1.

* N U M B. I.

1. **A** Small Duty upon Wool, will, in my Opinion, most effectually prevent the Exportation of it.
2. I propose therefore, 1. That one Shilling a Tod be laid upon Wool.
2. Every Man that has Sheep, shall on a Day appointed, deliver upon Oath to an exact List of his Sheep, &c. with the Weight of Wool he has shorn. Which Affidavit shall be delivered to him in Writing, by whose Fee shall be one Shilling.
3. Every Person that pulls Wool, as Felmongers, &c. shall, in like manner, once every Year.
4. A Transcript, with an Extract of these Affidavits, shall be fixed on the Doors of the Parish Church.
5. The Money to be collected before *Michaelmas* in every Year.
6. Officers (who shall be upon Oath) or Owners guilty of Falsehood, to be punished as the Legislature shall direct.
7. Owner of Sheep, or Felmonger, neglecting to give in the requisite Account, to forfeit, &c.
8. The Receiver General shall direct the Collectors of the Land-Tax to gather the Money; which shall be remitted to the Commissioners; who shall be five in Number; two chose by the King; one by the Commons,

* This is taken from a Pamphlet entitled, *Short Speculations on the present Decay of the Woollen Manufacture.*

one by the Mayor and Aldermen, and one by the Common Council of *London*, with a Salary of 200 *l.* each. 9. The Commissioners shall deliver their Accounts yearly upon Oath, to the *House of Commons*. 10. The Profits of the Wool Tax shall be employed in Bounties on that Cloth, which is carried to Markets where the *French* rival us.

3. *This Duty will advance the Price of Wool 71. per Cent.; which with the Bounty proposed, will entirely stop the Progress of their Woolen Trade.*

* N U M B. II.

1. The first Step to prevent the Exportation of Wool, is to take away the Temptation to it, by buying it at Home.

2. To this purpose it may be enacted, 1. That no Owner of Sheep, Fel-monger, &c. shall sell their Wool, but at an appointed Market. 2. That Persons appointed shall buy the Wool at near double the present Price, and sell it out at Markets, &c. appointed, at a stated Profit. 3. That the Agents shall be paid according to the Business they transact. 4. That the Wool be stocked in Towns where it is to be sold. 5. That Agents send weekly Accounts of their Transactions to the Commissioners of the Woolen Manufacture. 6. That the Agents pay for the Wool, not in Money, but in Bills, to be exchanged for Money with the Collectors of the Revenue. 7. That the Manufacturers may purchase Wool with Goods manufactured, and sent up to the Commissioners. 8. The Goodstaken by the Commissioners to be sold once a Month for Exportation, at *stated Prices*. 9. The Punishment for Exportation of Wool, to be a heavy Fine, and the Informer receive a Pension for Life. 10. A high Duty upon all other Manufactures, printed Linen and *Russia* Diaper, which will promote the Consumption of our Wool. 11. Such an Advance on *Irish* and *Scotch* Wool, as may take away the Temptation to export it. 12. A careful Inspection by publick Officers, of Goods made for Exportation.

† N U M B. III.

1. That our Wool shall be put under an Excise. 2. That the Excise on Soap, Candles, Leather, &c. be taken off, and in its stead, an Excise of one eighth of its Value laid upon Wool. 3. That an Account shall be given of the Wool in Hand, an Entry made by Growers at the *Excise-Office* of Sheep, before they are shorn; and Information given of the Day

* From an Essay, by *Cornelius Strongcastle*.

† From a Pamphlet entitled, *An impartial Enquiry, &c.* By *J. Gee*.

when they shall shear ; at which Time, a proper Officer shall attend, and take an Account of the Wool, from a sworn Wool-winder, who shall wind and weigh it. 4. That when the Wool is to be sold, the Seller and Buyer shall at the *Excise-Office*, enter their Names, the Quantity and Price ; paying the Duty. 5. And if the Price specified, is suspected to be under the real Value, the Officer may take it at the Price, giving the Buyer a Profit of five *per Cent.* which Wool, when sold again, shall be liable to a Tax, as if it had not been sold before. 6. That the Farmer shall be able to recover from the Buyer of the Wool, only the Price at which it is entered, &c. 7. That the Buyer shall not remove the Wool without a Permit, of which the Officer who grants it, shall inform the Officer of the Place to which it is to be carried. 8. And in this Manner being conveyed to the Manufacturer, he shall at every Sitting, give an Account of the Wool in his Hands, which shall likewise be subject to Surveys ; and the same shall be done by Fel-mongers, &c. 9. No *British* Wool shall be carried Coastwise, or put on Board any Ship or Vessel (Ferry Boats crossing an Inland River excepted.) 10. *Irish* Wool to be imported only from and to certain Ports, in Ships appointed for that Purpose. 11. No *British* Wool to be exported to *Jersey*, *Guernsey*, *Alderney*, or *Sark*,

C H A P. CXLVII.

Observations on the several Schemes in the foregoing Chapter.

N U M B. I.

^y Chap. 146.
N^o. 1.

TH E Author of this Scheme is ^y fundamentally mistaken, in taking for granted, that a general Duty on Wool, of one Shilling *per* Tod, would be a Means of rendering that Commodity one Jot dearer ; otherwise than as being so far a Discouragement to the growing of Wool, it might contribute to make it scarcer. This Duty, in every other Respect, would be in the Nature of an *additional Land Tax*. And I believe the Nation has not found that a *Land Tax* has contributed any Thing to the Price of Wool.

But though a Tax of one Shilling *per* Tod on Wool, would have rendered it so much dearer ; yet, if it advanced the Price for Exportation, the
Price

Price for home Use also being equally advanced at the same Time by the same Means, the Difference of 7 per Cent. was but imaginary.

As to the Article proposed, of a *Bounty* on Drapery exported, I confess something might be expected from such a Policy.

N U M B. II.

2. The Author hath said all in few Words, viz. 'That the first Step to prevent the Exportation of Wool is, to take away the TEMPTATION to it, by buying it at home, at a sufficient high Price.' But then the Method, by which he has proposed to do this, is so much out of the common Course of Trade, and gives such Liberty for Fraud and Oppression, that the Remedy would go near to be worse than the Disease; rendering Commerce, in some Views, precarious; in others, wholly impracticable.

For Instance, (Fig. 8. *) 'Goods taken by the Commissioners, to be sold once a Month for Exportation at stated Prices.' Does not this Policy proceed very much upon that Notion we often meet with, *That the English might have it in their Power to dispose of their Woollen Goods abroad, at THEIR OWN PRICES?* Than which nothing is more chimerical and false.

N U M B. III.

3. A great Part of this Scheme, viz. the * Registry conducted in the Method of the Excise, seems to have been adopted from Mr. Cary. But as it has been said very justly, 'That the first Step to prevent the Exportation of Wool is, to take away the Temptation to it; and as Mr. Gee has been more particular on that Head, than many other Writers, in order to have the Publick believe, not only how great the Temptation is, but whence it arises: I shall therefore give his Sentiments, as to that Particular, a more distinct Consideration, in the next following Chapter.

C H A P. CXLVIII.

Observations on some Passages in a Tract entitled, An impartial Enquiry, &c. By J. Gee.

1. **T**HIS Writer says, 'The Cause of the Exportation of Wool is, the immense Price, at which the French can purchase it; as he has undertook to shew, in a way that has been called judicious.

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2. I don't know how it comes to pass: But **we** in *England* (though in other Regards, a sober, discreet People) are apt to be taken with what is marvellous and romantick on this Head; and this Writer exceeds, in that
 * Chap. 145. Sense, all that I have met with, next to the *Draper of London*^d. His Manner of Reasoning is this: 'One Pack of *British* or *Irish*, will work up three
 ' ordinary, or four Packs of the best *French* Wool; and therefore every one
 ' Pack of *OURS*, which *THEY* manufacture, brings four or five into the
 ' Markets. The prodigious Increase of Goods which this occasions, and
 ' the Reduction of Prices which hereupon ensue, in Conjunction with the
 ' *French* manufacturing cheaper than we do, is the Reason that *THEY* can
 ' afford to give *ten or twelve hundred per Cent. Profit, for our Wool, rather*
 ' *than want it.*' 'The *French* (says he) can afford to give 78 *l.* a Pack for
 ' *British* and *Irish* Wool; and when that is done, sell their Goods cheaper
 ' in foreign Markets than we can afford to do.---Our Wool is now manu-
 ' factured at 20 *l.* a Pack; owing to a Reduction of Wages; and our best
 ' Wool, which used to be appropriated to the making of fine Goods, is
 ' chiefly applied to low priced Goods; which otherwise would bring our
 ' Manufactures to 40 *l.* a Pack.'

3. Upon the foregoing Supposition, (having taken it for granted that there are grown in Great Britain and Ireland 900,000 Packs of Wool yearly) he lays down the following Scheme of Gain to the Nation, viz.

' By an Advance upon the 225,000 Packs we now manufac-	£.
' ture for Exportation, - - - - -	4,500,000
' In manufacturing 450,000 Packs at 40 <i>l.</i> a Pack, - - -	18,000,000
' By Advance of Wool to double the Price, - - - - -	3,375,000
' By Exchange of Duties, - - - - -	1,125,000
	Total 32,220,000

* Chap. 145. 4. Thus does this Writer (like the *Draper of London*^d) dispense MIL-
 LIONS, as if *Pounds Sterling* were *Hedge-Crabs*. And if, as Mr. *Laybourne*
 has judiciously observed hereon^e, 'we could enrich the Nation by a Dex-
 * *Traacts on*
Wool, &c.
 1744. terity in Computation, it would be a pretty easy Way of doing it.'

5. The chief Foundation, it is observable, which Mr. *Gee* builds upon, is, that Legendary Notion, 'That the *French* particularly are not able to ma-
 ' nufacture their Wool to any Advantage, without a Mixture of *English* or *Irish*
 ' Wool.'

6. In this Notion, 'tis true, Mr. Gee is not singular : It has been repeated from one Writer to another, echoed over and over again ; and yet has no one Person attempted to account for it in any satisfactory, rational Way, unless Mr. Gee may be thought to have done so.

7. For that much of the *French*, and other foreign Wool, is coarse, or attended with a Stichel Hair, (as the Author of *Observations on British Wool*, &c. says it is) though (so far as true) it be an Argument of the Superiority of some *English* and *Irish* Wools, to such ; yet, don't I think it any Proof at all, of what is commonly advanced, about the supposed Benefits in *English* Wool, for Mixture with those coarse Stichel Hair Wools. Chap. 140.
§. 1.

8. But this Doctrine Mr. Gee (like Mr. Webber) clinches with the following Assertion, as an undoubted Matter of Fact, and decisive in the Case, (which, if true, it would go near to be) viz. ' When Ships lay Quarantine, (meaning the Time of the Plague at *Marseilles*) Wool advanced from 15 ' to 30 s. per Tod.'

9. This is Mr. Gee's Medium, for proving which (he affirms) ' That when ' Foreigners can't have OUR WOOL, we may fix OUR GOODS at what Rate we ' please, and dispose of them at whatever Rates we think proper to fix them.' A tempting Circumstance, was it true ! Now if, granting the Premises, the Conclusion is admitted, what is to be concluded from the Reverse of those Premises, but the Reverse of that Conclusion ?

10. The Fact alledged concerning the Price of Wool, at the Period mentioned, is not true ; but the contrary is. And further, if Persons may take that Liberty, and will allow themselves to use their own Reason in this Case, they will consider, that *French Wool* either is, or is not, the coarse useless Stuff which it is so commonly represented to be. If it is not, the Argument about the great Advantage to be made in *France*, of *English* Wool, by mixing, certainly stands for nothing. And if the *French Wool* is, much of it, coarse, like that of some Part of *Norfolk*, or worse ; though I am no Manufacturer, I dare challenge the most skilful Person, and experienced in that Way, provided he has common Modesty, to tell me, how a major Part, or even a less Proportion of such, mixed with what is much finer, can be so managed to make Goods, of the same Fashion or Sort, any way comparable to those that, with equal Care and Skill, shall be made all of the finer and better Sort of Wool. Would not that be, to expect Grapes of Thorns, and Figs of Thistles ?

11. Or, supposing it true, that the coarser *French Wool*, in order to an useful Manufacture, does want to be mixed with some other that is finer and better, why must that necessarily be *English* or *Irish* Wool? When, as we
 * Chap. 120, have seen ^e, and shall see yet further, not only *France* itself produces *fine*
 121. *Wool* in *some Plenty*, but many other, most Parts indeed of *Europe*, *Asia*, *Africa*, and *America*, afford Wool of various Kinds, and in great Abundance. Further, in Regard to the Business of mixing Wools; though that indeed,
 h Chap. 151. we shall see ^h, is much practised in *France*, yet not otherwise, than as the
 152. same is done in *England*.

12. In many Species of Goods, the Warp or Chain is of one Sort of Yarn or Worsted, the Woof or Shoot of another. This is the very Case of several Manufactures at *Exeter* ⁱ, and elsewhere. The *French* also, and the
 i Chap. 140. *English* likewise, mix Wool upon the Cards, for spinning: This appears to
 §. 4. be the Work of what are called *Scriblers*, for mixed or medley Cloths; but that, I conceive, is a Mixture of different Colours of dyed Wool, of the same, rather than of divers Qualities.

13. For as it is allowed on all Hands, that the *separating* and *sorting* of *Wool*, is one, and not the least Part of the Skill and Dexterity that is employed in the Woolen Manufacture ^k; requiring to be performed with much
 k See Chap. Care and Exactness: So common Sense will tell us, that such Separation of
 140. §. 17. Wool cannot be, for the sake of confounding it again upon the Cards, or in
 Chap. 151. the Comb; since, at the best, that would be only so much *lost Labour*.
 §. 1, 2.

14. This is to be understood of that Separation or Sorting, which is ordinarily made of Wools so totally different from, and contrary to each other, as that it would be highly unprofitable to have them combed or carded together; and which is the Case of some Wool in every individual Fleece ^l.
 l Chap. 89. But after this first Separation or Sorting, (which the *French* and *Spaniards*
 §. 17. call *Triage*, because the Wool of every Fleece is usually divided by them into three Sorts, ^m) I find, by Discourse with a working Wool-comber, that there
 m Chap. 151. is practised, in *England*, a Mixture of Wool for the Comb, (and not impro-
 §. 1, 2. bably for the Cards too in like manner) which is thus: As in every Flock of Sheep, or Pile of Wool, which is called the *same*, there are some Fleeces of a finer Hair than others; so, in every Parcel or Mass of Wool which is called the *same*, and intended for the same Purposes, that is, after it is reduced by the aforesaid primary Separation, to be in a good Measure of one Sort, will there necessarily be some Parts finer than others. And these, I understand, the Combers particularly are careful to intermix as closely as they

they can, in order to bring the whole Mass, as near as may be, to a *Level*, (as the Comber termed it) to the end (as he again expressed himself) it might produce one sortable Quantity of *Tear*, i. e. even Yarn or Worsted, viz. in the same Degree of Strength and Fineness.

15. But this is far from proving the Point asserted, viz. that any EXTRAORDINARY Price can therefore be afforded for finer Wools, in order to mix with coarser; since so far as such Mixture is any Way proper, it must needs be that the coarse will take from the fine, as much as the latter can add to the former; and it appears that the whole Benefit, 1st, Of separating or throwing out the coarse and improper. 2dly, Of mixing the Remainder, is, making the whole Mass intended to be combed or carded for one Use, equal to itself throughout, be it coarser or finer.

16. And should it be so (which is hardly probable) that finer Wool is really more worth, for mixing with coarser, than for using alone; yet, is it not worth more, in that respect, to the *French*, than it is to the *English*; because the *English* use it in like Manner, and with equal Advantage, whatever it be. But,

17. Lastly, if so it is, that the *French* can afford to give such extravagant Prices for *English* or *Irish* Wool, for the Sake of mixing it with theirs, as by the Account of Mr. Geeⁿ, who says they can afford to pay 78 l. a Pack for it, ⁿ §. 2. how, according to what Sir Josiab Child^o, long since, most judiciously and truly observed, can it be proposed to prevent their purchasing it? ^o Chap. 48. §. 3.

18. Why, Mr. Gee says, 'By a Registry conducted in the strictest Method, that of the Excise;' and so far, he is consistent. Nevertheless, from his own Account of Things, it is justly questionable, whether even such a Registry as he prescribes, would do the Business wanted.

19. But against what Mr. Gee hath asserted, is to be urged, 1. The common Practice and known Utility of *sorting Wool*; a strong Argument of no such Usage as that of mingling those of so very different Qualities, as the *French* and *English* are represented to be, in order to the SPINNING OF THEM TOGETHER. 2. As to that other Mixture (after spinning) in the Loom, by making the Warp or Chain of one Sort of Yarn or Worsted, the Woof or Shoot of another; though confessedly it is practised in *France*; yet (besides that it is practised in like Manner in *England* also) will it not make for Mr. Gee's Argument, viz. 'That the French can afford to pay extraordinarily for *English* and *Irish* Wools, for the Sake of such Mixture.'

20. He

20. He indeed, and others, pretend to assure us, that, without such *Mixture*, the coarse *French Wool* (as they call it) would be *useless*. But I answer, 1. So far are the *French* from being able to afford any high Price for the fine *English* or *Irish*, for the Sake of mixing with *very coarse French Wool*, that such a Mixture would, in the Nature of Things, be unprofitable, like *sewing a Piece of new Cloth into an old Garment*. 2. As in most Countries, there is comparatively, a greater Demand for coarse, *i. e.* low priced Goods, than for fine and dearer, and the greatest Demand of all, for those that are coarsest; because such come for the *least Money*: So the *coarsest Wool of France* is no more a Drug, or *useless* there, than is the *coarsest Wool of Great Britain* in this Kingdom. And this is evident from the single Circumstance, of the *French* importing Quantities of coarser Wool than the coarsest of their own; which they would not do, if there was Danger of their own being *useless*.

See Chap.
160. §. 4.

See Chap.
154.

21. Thus, as a Mixture of fine *English* or *Irish* with very coarse *French Wool*, must be unprofitable; and as *no French Wool*, not even the coarsest, can be deemed *useless*, without a Mixture of *English* or *Irish*, so neither can the latter be so advantageous to the *French*, for mixing with any of their better Sorts, as that, *therefore*, the *French* can afford to give any *considerable advanced Price* for it; which I prove thus.

22. Such of the *French Wool*, as is at any Time used, mixed with *English* or *Irish*, is either superior, or equal, or inferior to such *English* or *Irish Wool*. As the latter is generally supposed to be the Case; let us say, *v. g.* that such *French Wool* is comparatively worse than the *English* or *Irish*, with which it is mixed, by 30 *per Cent.* and that $\frac{1}{3}$ of such *English* and *Irish* is mixed with $\frac{2}{3}$ of such *French Wool*; must not, in that Case, the whole Mass be 20 *per Cent.* less worth, than if it had been all of the better *English Wool*? and must it not be 10 *per Cent.* better, than if it had been all of the worse *French Wool*? And (supposing an equal Market for both Kinds of Wool) must not the Manufacture from Materials so mixed, as supposed, be at least 20 *per Cent.* cheaper, because so much worse than if made with equal Skill and Labour of all the better Sort of Wool? But work up this same mixed Wool into different Species of Goods, requiring a different Portion of Labour; and will they not consequently admit of being sold at different Prices? And if the Quantity of Materials is the same in each, or so far as they are the same, must not the whole Difference of Price be-
tween

tween the one and the other, be placed to the Account of Labour altogether.

23. This is so true, that Mr. Gee, in attempting to explain his own Notions of the *high Temptation to the Runnage Wool*, has unwarily resolved it, in effect, into the different Price of *Labour only* in *England*, and in *France*. And though he is far from being singular in his Notions in the general, as touching the great Advantages to be made by mixing *English* or *Irish* with *French* Wools; yet, because he has not only carried that Notion higher by far than any other Person I have met with (one only excepted) and because ^{Chap. 75.} *He alone* has undertook to demonstrate the Matter by Figures; ^{§. 13. Note.} *therefore*, I here produce his Calculation, in order to examine the Contents of it.

24. ' A Piece of Cloth (says Mr. Gee) made of four Pounds of Wool			
' in <i>England</i> , costs the Clothier,			l. s. d.
' Four Pounds of Wool, at 6 d.	—	—	0 02 0
' Manufacturing at 3 s.	—	—	0 12 0
			—
			0 14 0
			—

' To make a Piece of Cloth of *equal Value*, the *French* Clothier
' *must* mix one Pound of *English* Wool with *three* Pounds of
' *French* Wool; but deducting from the Wages of the Ma-
' nufacturer one Third, can afford to pay for the one Pound

' of <i>English</i> Wool,	—	—	l. s. d.
' Three Pounds of <i>French</i> Wool,	—	—	0 04 6
' Manufacturing	—	—	0 01 6
			0 08 0
			—
			0 14 0
			—

25. Thus does Mr. Gee's Hypothesis, of the *French* being able to afford 4 s. 6 d. a Pound for *English* Wool, or *Irish*, suppose these four Things. 1st, That the *French* can manufacture full 50 per Cent. cheaper than the *English*. 2. That their own Wool is so bad, as to be *useless*, without a Mixture of $\frac{1}{4}$ *English* or *Irish* Wool. 3. That notwithstanding such intrinsic Difference between *French* and *British* Wools, or *Irish*; yet the former is of equal Price with the latter, viz. 6 d. a Pound. 4. That though *French* Wool alone, is *useless*, yet when compounded with $\frac{1}{4}$ of *British* or *Irish* Wool,

§. 24.

Wool, it produces a Manufacture of *equal Value**, as if made with the same Skill and Labour, of all such *British* or *Irish* Wool.

See Chap.

133. §. 6.

26. But in Contradiction to this Hypothesis, 1. The *French*, I think, can not manufacture 50 *per Cent.* nor any Thing like it, cheaper than the *English* do. For if they could, as they and the *English* purchase the Wools of which the superfine Cloths are made, at one and the same Market, *viz.* in *Spain*; and therefore it is presumed, at the same Price, (if not the *French* cheapest, as being nearest* and most favoured in that Country) it would be impossible for the *English* to sell a single Yard of such fine Cloth, where any *French* Cloth came to be sold, of the same Sort; the latter would be so very much cheaper.

Chap. 99.

§. 1.

Chap. 138.

§. 5. Note.

27. Not only so, but the *French* would be as able to run considerable Quantities of their Cloth into the *British* Dominions, as they are to smuggle Wool out of them. But though we hear much of one, yet nothing of the other. Nor do we hear of any such Difference in the Price of the finest *French* and *English* Cloths, as 50 *per Cent.* Difference in Labour, would occasion. Of a Difference of 25 *per Cent.* indeed, the *British Merchant** speaks: Of from 13 to 15 or 16 s. the Yard, some others^u. But as, on the one Hand, most *English* Men agree, that the finest *French* Cloth is not equal to that of their own Country: And as I apprehend that the Difference of Price between one and the other (whatever it be) does not arise altogether from the Difference of Labour, but from an intrinsic Difference also: So, on the other Hand, I am persuaded that even the intrinsic Difference of these fine Cloths, in one Kingdom and the other, is not to be attributed to the superior Skill and Abilities of Workmen in *England*, beyond those of *France*, but to *French Artifice**, in making something worse, for the Sake of underselling so much more; and by which they find their Account in foreign Markets.

Chap. 184.

§. 50. Note.

28. Herein they take Care to suit themselves to the Taste of those they have to deal with. And though *French* Cloth does not so well take the Fancy of the *English* in general; that, we may presume, is not, because they cannot work like the *English*; but because they know they may not import Cloth to *England*. If they might, as the *British Merchant* hath said, they would make our Hearts ache; we should soon find

* But though he says that the then Difference, in Price, between *French* and *English* Cloths, was 25 *per Cent.* he does not say that they were of equal Goodness. He only says, that 'in general, they were, Goodness for Goodness, cheaper than ours,' not 25 *per Cent.* cheaper.

them,

them, either bringing over the *English* to be pleased with the Cloth they now make, or else making such Cloth as the *English* do at present, for the most Part, prefer, viz. thick, firm, heavy. But such Cloth requiring more Stuff, Time, Labour, must in course be dearer than the light thin Cloth they generally make for their own wear, and for the *Levant, Italian, Portugal, and Spanish, Trades*. And hence we may perceive, that did the *French* bestow the same Labour, and an equal Quantity of Materials, to make their Cloth of equal Substance and Goodness with the *English* in that Case, as it would be also more nearly at least of equal Price: So, the Premises considered, it is to be concluded, that they cannot manufacture so very much cheaper than the *English*, as 50 per Cent. nor any Thing near it, as has been represented by Mr. Gee, and by others occasionally.

29. The second thing implied in Mr. Gee's Hypothesis, is, That French Wool, without a Mixture of British or Irish, is useless; i. e. as it is vulgarly expressed, the French cannot do without OUR WOOL. This would be a fine Circumstance for England, was it true; but the Falseness of that Suggestion, and the Truth of what the *British Merchant* hath affirmed to the contrary, ^{x Ch. 105.} is sufficiently evinced, from the *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*. ^{§. 12, 14.}

30. Mr. Gee, in the third place, supposes this very bad (in itself useless) ^{67.} Wool of France, to be of equal Price with the so much better English Wool; rating the one and the other, alike, at 6 d. a Pound. And is not this a ^{§. 24.} kind of Solecism?—Is it not saying at once, that French Wool both is, and is not so good as English? But I go farther, and say, that the most Part of the French Wool in France^a sells dearer than English Wool in England: So ^{a Ch. 162.} that, either French Wool is proportionably better than the English; or else ^{§. 7. Note.} the English Wool is so much depressed below its natural Value, as the Dif- ^{Ch. 40.} ference amounts to; which latter is in a great measure the Case. ^{§. 13. Note.}

31. Fourthly, (which is most extraordinary) Mr. Gee supposes a Composition, of $\frac{1}{4}$ English or Irish Wool, very good, and $\frac{3}{4}$ of French, nothing near so good, to produce Cloth or Stuff of equal Price^b, consequently of ^{b §. 24.} equal Goodness, as if it was made entirely of such good English or Irish Wool. And is not this a Miracle, like that of Transubstantiation? Can a Person, not seeing a Work of this Composition, credit such a Report of it, without renouncing his Reason? Or could a Person, think we, after seeing, believe it, without giving up the Evidence of his Senses?

32. It is therefore to be concluded, that the Temptation to the Runnage of

Wool is not, *cannot* be any thing near so great, as Mr. Gee particularly has represented; but, that the same whatever it be, arises, not from the Benefits of mixing, nor so much from the lower Labour of the *French*, as from the *Wool* of ENGLAND and IRELAND being depressed, AT HOME, below its natural Value, in consequence of A MONOPOLY thereon.

C H A P CXLIX.

Abstract of the Scheme for registering Wool, prepared by the Lords Commissioners for Trade, &c. and laid before the Parliament February 12, 1741-2.

1. **I**T is proposed, that a certain Number of Gentlemen, Merchants, Traders, Manufacturers, and Exporters of Woolen Manufactures, be appointed with full Powers to prevent the clandestine Exportation of Wool, by establishing a Register of such Wool, as now remains, or shall hereafter annually be shorn in *Great Britain*.
2. First Meeting to be at on the Day of
3. The said Commissioners shall then by Ballot chuse eight Persons out of their Number to be acting Commissioners, for the ensuing Year, to sit daily, of which five to be a *Quorum*.
4. Four of them to go out at the Year's End, and four new Commissioners to be chosen by Ballot.
5. And so for the second Year.
6. And every succeeding Year. No one Commissioner to be chose a second time, 'till all have served once.
7. The like Rotation for the future; those first chosen, to be first in Succession.
8. Each acting Commissioner to receive an annual Salary.
9. Upon the Death, &c. of any acting Commissioner, another shall be chosen by the whole Body of Commissioners.
10. And so for any Commissioner at large.
11. The acting Commissioners, or five of them, shall have full Powers for carrying this Scheme into Execution.
12. Shall have a Secretary, Deputy Secretaries, an Accomptant General Deputy Accomptant, ten Clerks, one Door-keeper, two Messengers, sixteen

teen Supervisors, with two Assistants for each Supervisor, one hundred and fifty-seven Riding-Officers, and one hundred other Officers, to be constantly stationed in the principal Ports, and manufacturing Towns of the Kingdom, with reasonable Salaries; who shall all be chosen by Ballot, by the whole Body of Commissioners then present.

13. But upon Death or Removal, to be replaced by the acting Commissioners.

14. These Officers shall be posted, as the Commissioners shall judge most convenient.

15. There being about 786 Market Towns in *England* and *Wales*, one Riding-Officer will be sufficient for five of them; and may attend each, one Day or more, in every Fortnight, to make Entries of Wool in each Persons Possession, grant Permits, &c.

16. One Supervisor, with his two Assistants, may inspect ten Riding-Officers.

17. Notice to be given in every Parish Church, of the respective Days, in every Fortnight throughout the Year, when the Riding-Officer will attend at the Market Towns within his District, which, as near as may be, shall be the usual Market Days.

18. Every Person, under the Penalty of shall attend at some Market Town on the Day appointed, and make an Entry with the said Officer of the Wool in his Possession, who shall give him a Certificate thereof in the following Terms, *viz.* ‘ *These are to certify, that A. B. dwelling at*
‘ *came this Day and made Oath before me, That all the Wool now in his*
‘ *Custody, is kept in, or laid up in such a Room or Loft, and doth amount to*
‘ *Weight, and no more.*’

19. And the said Officer shall within Days return a Duplicate of such Certificate to the Commissioners.

20. No Person to remove Wool without a Permit from the Officer of the District.

21. Every Grower of Wool within Days after he shall have shorn his Sheep, under Penalty aforesaid, to make an Entry, upon Oath, with the Wool-Officer, of the Number of Sheep and Lambs by him depastured, Fleeces shorn, and Weight of the Wool, distinguishing the Kinds and not to remove any Part without a Permit.

22. All Felmongers, or others, who sever Wool from slaughtered Sheep or Lamb Skins, shall likewise give an Account upon Oath, every six Weeks, to the Wool Officers, of all Skins they receive in, and the Weight

of Wool severed from them, distinguishing Shortlings from others; and that they do not remove any Part without a Permit.

23. No Person to purchase Wool, exceeding the Weight of Pounds without a License from the said Commissioners, and giving Security that he will not transport any Wool, nor remove any without a Permit.

24. Licenses may be granted, and Security taken by any of the Officers on paying the Sum of

25. Such Licenses and Securities to be returned to the general Office in London.

26. Provides for charging and discharging every Buyer and Seller of Wool by Permits for Removal, till it comes to the Manufacturer.

27. Who shall be discharged thereof by the Weight of his Manufactures, with a reasonable Deduction for Loss in working up the same.

28. All Wool exceeding Pounds, removed without a Permit, shall be forfeited, and treble the Value, with the Horses and Carriage; one half thereof to his Majesty, and the other half to the Officer who shall seize the same.

29. All Dealers in Wool shall account annually with the Wool-Officers, for the Quantities of Wool by him grown, bought or disposed of; whereof they are to be discharged by Permits, and Receipts on the Back thereof, or by Manufactures made out of the same; and whatever Quantity shall be deficient, shall be looked upon as so much Wool clandestinely exported, and they shall forfeit treble the Value.

30. Reasonable Allowances shall be made for Diminution in working, Loss by Fire, &c. of which the Commissioners shall be the sole Judges,

31. Proceeding according to the best and most authentick Accounts of what generally hath been the usual Loss of Waste in the said Operations.

32. All Wool removed of the Place entered for its keeping, exceeding Pounds shall be accounted Wool removed without a Permit, and be liable to the Penalties; except small Quantities sold to poor Housekeepers, to be by them wrought up into Hose, &c. or delivered to Combers, Spinners, &c.

33. A daily Account of such small Quantities to be kept in Books, provided the Dealers signify the Quantity, and to whom delivered; which Books shall lye open in their Warehouses, to be perused by the Officers, and shall be returned at the Year's End, to the Wool Officers, upon Oath.

34. Dealers failing in the above Article, shall for every Offence forfeit the Sum of

35. Any

35. Any Wool Officer in the Day-time, to enter into the Room or Warehouse for keeping of Wool, for Examination ; and if the Wool shall be deficient, the Owner shall forfeit treble the Value.

36. The like Penalty, where the Quantity of Wool shall exceed the Entry made thereof.

37. Dealers to have Weights and Scales, and to assist in weighing Wool, or forfeit the Sum of

38. Wool-Officers shall have Power, taking to their Assistance a Peace-Officer, in the Day-time, upon Information given upon Oath before any Justice, to enter Rooms to search for concealed Wool ; if such be found, to be forfeited, and treble the Value paid by the Person in whose House or Custody found.

39. Persons obstructing Officers, to forfeit

40. No Wool shall be carried Coastwise, but by Vessels registered and licensed, and Security given not to export it to foreign Parts.

41. Such Vessels to be *English* built, and navigated by the King's natural Subjects only.

42. And shall not receive any Wool on Board, without a Permit, specifying the Quantity and Quality of Wool ; to what licensed Purchaser, and where consigned.

43. The Captain of the Vessel not to deliver the Wool, but in the Presence of a Wool Officer ; nor to any, but to whom the same is consigned ; who shall deliver to the Captain a Permit for purchasing the same, together with a Receipt on the Back, which shall be a Discharge to the Captain.

44. Allowances shall be made for Losses by Shipwreck, or Captures by the Enemy, upon sufficient Proof.

45. All Vessels not licensed, taking Wool, shall be forfeited, one Half to the Informer, the other to his Majesty.

46. Any Wool-Officer, or Officer of the Revenue, or any Captain of his Majesty's Ships, are hereby empowered to make Seizure of such Vessel.

47. If any Wool, or any Horse, Carriage, or Vessel, shall be seized for want of a legal Permit, &c. the Proof shall lie on the Owner of such Wool, &c. and not on the Officer who shall stop the same.

48. All Forfeitures and Penalties to be determined in a summary Way ; if within the Bills of Mortality, before the acting Commissioners ; or if in any other Place, before two neighbouring Justices, whose Determination shall be final, except in the Case of Vessels seized, where the Owner may appeal to the Court of *Exchequer*.

49. The

^g Chap. 142.
P. S.

49. The Act of the 12th^h of his present Majesty, relating to the registering of Ships, &c. to continue in Force.

50. Persons taking out Permits for removing Wool, who neither in the Time limited remove it, nor return the Permits to the Wool-Officer, shall forfeit

51. The Commissioners annually to lay an Account of their Proceedings before his Majesty in Council, and both Houses of Parliament.

This Scheme may be extended to North Britain and Ireland.

All which is most humbly submitted.

Whitehall,
Feb. 18,
1741-2.

Monson,
R. Plumer,
T. Pelham,
M. Bladen,

Ja. Brudenal,
B. Keene,
R. Herbert.

C H A P. CL.

*Chambers's * Dictionary:*

1. **T**HE Wools most esteemed, are ; the *English*, those about *Leominster*, *Cotswold* †, and the *Isle of Wight*.

2. The Wools of *England* have always been in the highest Repute, and that more abroad ‡ than at home. Some we have, which, manufactured by
our

* I do not here produce Mr. *Chambers*, as an Authority, (for upon this Subject he happens to be a very bad one) but, because he is consulted upon almost every Subject, and, on several, is undoubtedly very instructive ; THEREFORE I introduce him, to point out certain of his Errors on this.

Camden Britan. p. 238.

† *Cotswold*, which takes its Name from the Hills and Sheepcotes, (for Mountains and Hills without Woods, the *English* Men in old Times termed *Wolds*.) Upon these Hills are fed large Flocks of Sheep, with the whitest Wool, by reason, as is supposed, of their hilly and short Pasture, whose Wool is much valued in foreign Nations.

^h Chap. 171.
N^o. 6, 7.
ⁱ Chap. 172.

N. B. *These Wools*, particularly those of *Cotswold*, are much celebrated by several Writers. But see ^h the Price of *Cotswold Wools*, and of the *Isle of Wight*, compared with the Price of the middle, and even lowest *Spanish Wools* ; and thence judge, if the *two former* are not either overpraised by *English* Writers and some others, or else undersold in the *English* Markets ; both which I think to be the Case.

^k See Ch. 5.
^l 9. Ch. 7.
^m 1.
ⁿ See Ch. 15.
^o 33.

‡ They have constantly been sold at higher Prices abroad, than at home ; and well they might, for these plain Reasons ; 1st. Anciently, Wool was not only subjected to a considerable Duty on Exportation, (which was so much taken off from the Price ^k to the Grower) but was greatly monopolized by the *Merchants of the Staple*^l. Both which Circumstances together, made, no doubt, a mighty Difference between the Price of *English* Wool in *England*, and of the same in foreign

our own Clothiers, *Chamberlayne* observes, does both for Softness and Fineness, vie with the choicest Silks *.

3. *Spanish* Wool, we know, bears a great Price amongst us ; but it is certain, much the greatest Part of that which is called *Spanish* Cloth, is from Wool that grows in *England* †.—Add, that the *French* can make no good Cloth of their own Wool, without, at the least, one Third of *English* Wool || mixed with it:

4. It is allowed, the Goodness of the *Spanish* Wool is owing to a few *English* Sheep sent over into *Spain*, as a Present, by *Henry II.* of *England*, or by *Edward IV* **.

5. The excessive Custom, on the Export of unmanufactured Wool, set the People upon making it into Cloth † themselves. In which they succeeded so well, that towards the Close of the sixteenth Century, the Exportation of any Wool at all was absolutely prohibited ; and this upon Pain of having the right Hand struck off ‡.

6. From that Time, *England* has been exceeding jealous * of its Wool. To prompt their Vigilance, the Judges, &c. are seated on Wool Packs ††.

7. The Woolen Manufactory [of *England*] may be said to have had its Rise in the fifteenth Century ||. Till that Time, our Wool was all sold in

foreign Markets. 2dly, Our later Statutes, which prohibit absolutely the Exportation of Wool, being also in the Nature of a *Monopoly*, have depressed the Price in *England*, far below its natural Value : So that 'tis no wonder, if what does escape abroad, is commonly sold at a different, i. e. at a Market Price, according as all other Wool is sold ; in which Sense, by how much the Wools of *England* are more reputed abroad than at home, by so much is the Injury greater, that is thus done to the *English* Wool-grower and his Dependants.

* A silly Hyperbole, of some ancient Panegyrist, but unworthy of a serious Pen, in this more enlightened Age.

† It is certain that the best *Spanish* Cloths, called *Superfine*, have no *English* Wool at all in them. m Chap. 87.

|| And it is equally certain, that the *French* not only make their best Cloths (as the *English* do) of all the best *Spanish* Wool, but that they make besides, many Sorts of good Cloth, with *French* Wool alone. §. 5. n Chap. 151.

** See Chap. 3. §. 18. Chap. 12. §. 15.

† The high Custom on Wool exported, was perhaps of some Advantage to the *English* Manufacturer, especially for home Consumption ; and might have been of more, for the Exportation Trade, had not a mistaken Policy, for a long Time, prevailed, of subjecting Cloth, as well as Wool, to a Custom on Exportation.

‡ It is true, that the *English* had so well succeeded, as long before the Close of the 16th Century, to have been great Makers, and Exporters likewise, of Woolens. But to say that there was, in the whole Reign of *Queen Elizabeth*, any Prohibition like what is here mentioned, is an absolute Falshood ; witness the Statute Book.

* The Merchants of the Staple, anciently ; and, latterly, the Merchants, and the Manufacturers, have been constantly aiming at, and frequently compassing, in some Shape or another, a *Monopoly* against the *English* Wool Grower.

†† See Chap. 175. N°. 1. §. 7. B. Chap. 28. §. 1.

|| See Chap. 175. N°. 1. §. 6. B.

the

the Fleece to such of our Neighbours as came to fetch it : But certain Manufacturers from *Louvain* flying into *England*, on Account of a Sedition and Murder, they instructed our People how to work their own Wools.—This Establishment is referred to the Year 1420 † ; from which Time, no Endeavours have been spared to keep our Wool to ourselves * .

8. So jealous are we now become of our Woolens, that besides the Precautions taken to use all our own Wool ourselves, we have added that of selling them ourselves, and of carrying them to the Places where they are required ; not admitting Strangers to come and buy any in *England* ‡ .

C H A P. CLI.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce : By Mr. Savary.

Geneva, 1742.

O F W O O L, &c.

Tom. 2. p.
941.

Wool.

1. **T**H O S E who trade in *Wool*, in *France*, divide every Fleece into three Sorts. The first is called *Mother Wool*.

2. The *Spaniards* make very near the same *Triage* of *Wools*, as the *French*, and they call their several Sorts of Wool, *Prime*, *Second*, and *Tierce* ; with this

* Chap. 33.

§. 11. Note.

* Ch. 5. §. 5.

12. Note.

§. 34. Note.

* Ch. 36. §.

3. 4. Note.

§. 7. Note.

* Chap. 39.

§. 3. Ch. 41.

§. 11. §. 14.

Note.

* Chap. 42.

Note.

* 1 Eliz. c.

13. See Ch.

19. §. 1. Note.

* See Ch. 72.

§. 3. Note.

* Chap. 91.

§. 11.

† This Sedition, and its Consequences, was in the Beginning of the fourteenth Century.

* So then, we should suppose, from Mr. Chambers, that the Exportation of Wool had been so long prohibited, as from the Year 1420. Which is 202 Years sooner than any Act of State did issue for that Purpose : A Proclamation of King James (1622*) being the very first which so much as looked that way. What had passed of this Nature in Edward III. * was expressly intended for very different Purposes than that of keeping our Wool to ourselves ; and so, in all Probability, were the Proclamations severally both of James and Charles I*. Nor was the Ordinance of Parliament 1647^u) adhered to by the Executive Power. And therefore, the first Prohibition, in this Case, strictly speaking, can be dated no higher than the 12 Car. II. viz. 1660^w, the Year of the Restoration.

‡ With all our Jealousy, in regard to Wool, we are not now, neither have we lately, been so foolish in respect to the Exportation of Woolens, as Mr. Chambers represents us. In the Beginning of Queen Elizabeth *, when a kind of Navigation Act did pass, there was a saving Clause to the Merchant Adventurers, in behalf of Wool and Cloth. And the Navigation Act of 12 Car. II. was corrected in the 25th of the same Reign, with regard to Aliens, excepting Coals and Manufactures.—But by the 1st of Will. and Mary, c. 32. y for the better Encouragement of the Woolen Manufacture, and the Growth of Wool, Any Person or Persons may buy and export the Woolen Manufactures into any foreign Parts whatsoever ; saving to the Turkey Company, and some others, their Charters and Grants. By the 6th of Anne, c. 9. * all white Woolen Cloths may be exported by any Person or Persons.

N. B.

this Difference, that the *Spaniards* sell all the three Sorts together, without any Refuse; and the *French* sell and buy them separately, according to the Use they intend them for. The *Prime*, of *Segovie*, is, indisputably the best of that Kind. The *mere Laine*, or *Mother Wool*, is yet of two Sorts; distinguished into fine and middle; according as the Staple is short and fine, or long and coarse.

5. The Wool, before it is fit for Work, goes through many Hands; after it is shorn, it is washed, then dried, then beat, then oiled, carded and spun; then it is put into the Loom, or used with the Needle.

4. The Commerce of Wool is very considerable in *Europe*; and the Consumption of it so great in *France*, since the last Wars, that notwithstanding the Abundance thereof in most of the Provinces of the Kingdom, they import large Quantities from foreign Countries.

5. The *French* Wools are chiefly from *Languedoc*, *Berry*, *Normandy*, and *Burgundy*, *Picardy*, *Champagne*; and other Provinces also produce it, but not so good in Quality, nor in so great a Quantity.

6. The foreign Wools are from *Spain*, *Portugal*, *England*, *Scotland*, *Ireland*, *Holland*. From the *Levant*, by the Way of *Marseilles*; from *Constantinople*, *Smyrna*, *Alexandria*, *Aleppo*, *Cyprus*, the *Morea*, *Barbary*; these last are least esteemed; *Smyrna* and *Constantinople* furnish the best that come from the *Levant*. The *French*, especially in *Provence*, import considerably from the Isle of *Canada*. Those, with the rest that come from *Greece* and Page 942. the Isles of the *Archipelago*, are of a mean Sort, fit only for coarse Stuffs, or to make the Lint of finer; they make some Quilts of them.

7. *Wools of France* are commonly sold by the Farmers and Labourers, *en Wools of France* *suif*, i. e. unwashed. Those that buy them at the first Hand, either wash and triage them, or else sell them in the Fleece, washed only. When the Wool has been triaged, then it is sold only by Weight. The best Wool of *France* is that of low *Normandy*, and principally that of *Valogne*; those of *Cotantin* are almost as much esteemed. They make Cloth of *Valogne*,^b Chap. 164. *Cherburgh*, *Vire*, and *Serges finettes*, *Razes*, of *St. Lo* and *Caen*; and these §. 10. are made very fine. The Wool of *Berry* is also used in Cloths of *Valogne*

N. B. These which have been noted in Mr. *Chambers*, (and this last, more particularly,) are not Mistakes of an indifferent Nature; but have an evil Tendency to mislead the People, already too far misled in their Notions of *English Wool*, &c. and to rivet them in Errors to which they have been long inured by other Writers, and whom Mr. *Chambers* himself, as a great Collector, may be supposed only to have followed too implicitly, and not to have employed his industrious Pen with any deliberate Intention of imposing upon his Readers.

and *Vire*, and in what they call *Draps de Berry*; also in Druggets of *Amboise*, with a Mixture of *Spanish Wool*.

Foreign Wools.
R. 943.

8. We must confess that the foreign Wools are far superior to *French Wool*; at least, those of *Spain*, *Portugal*, and *Great Britain**. But the Dexterity of the Manufacturers, in mixing their own Wool with their Neighbours, set them upon an equal Foot with, or perhaps above the most expert of their Neighbours †.

9. The Wool that comes from *Spain*, is principally from *Castile*, *Arragon*, and *Navarre*. They give them Names, according to their Quality, or the Places from whence they come. Those from *Castile* and *Arragon*, come commonly by *Bilboa*. The Places about *Saragosse* in *Arragon*, and the Neighbourhood of *Segovie* in *Castile*, furnish the best. Amongst the finest of these two, they distinguish again the *Pile of the Cartbusians*, and the *Pile of the Jesuits*, those that are called *la Grille*, *Refin Sagovie*, *Refin Ville Castin*.

10. In general, they give to the most fine Wools the Name of *Prime*; adding to it the Name of the Place from whence they come. So they say, *Prime Segovie*, to express the finest Wool of that City: The next to it in Fineness, is called *Seconde*, or *Refleuret*, to which they join the Denomination of some Place in *Spain*, as *Refleuret Segovie*, *Refleuret Ville Castin*, &c. This *Second**, of Wool, is sometimes called singly, *Segoviane*. The third Sort is called *Tierce*, which is also distinguished by a second Denomination, as *Tierce Segovie*, &c.

11. The *Prime*, especially those of *Segovie*, and *Ville Castin*, are commonly used for making the finest Cloths, Ratines, and other very fine STUFFS after the Fashion ‡ of *England* and *Holland*. The *Segoviane* or *Refleuret* is used to make Cloth of *Elbeauf*, or others of like Quality. The third is only

* Here we find the Wools of *Great Britain* mentioned in the third Place, viz. after those of *Spain* and *Portugal*; and in that Rank of intrinsic Goodness I take them to be among the Wools of *Europe*; consequently it might be expected, that they should be also the next to these in Price; and though it is otherwise in the *English* Markets, yet that, no doubt, would be the Case, were they not under the Pressure of a Monopoly.

† How is this to be understood? That the *French*, by mixing *British* Wool with their own, have the Dexterity to make better Goods than their most dextrous Neighbours in Woolen Manufacture, the *English*? That methinks is impossible. This would be making not only their own Wool better than *English*, but their own Workmen superior to the most dextrous. And therefore I imagine, what the Author meant, is, that the *French*, by the Help of their Neighbours, the *Spanish* and *Portuguese* Wools, (which are better than the *English*) though mixed with their own, not quite so good, were capable of making as good Draperies, of the middle Sort, as their most expert Neighbours, the *English*, do, of the like Sort, with their own Wool only.

* See Ch. 125.
§. 1. Note.

‡ See here, *façon d'Angleterre*, or *English-like**, is a mere technical Word, not implying necessarily the Use of *English* Wool, in that kind of Manufacture, which is so called.

used.

used for common Cloths, as those of *Rouen* and *Arnetal*. The Refuse of these three *Spanish* Wools is called in some Parts of *France*, *Migot*, i. e. bad.

12. The Wools of *Moliennes* come from *Barcelona*; and though *Roussillon* has been long since detached from the Crown of *Spain*, and yielded to *France*, yet the Wools of that Province keep always the Name of *Spanish* Wools. They are of three Sorts. *Refleuret*, which is the *Prime*, or most fine of that Province; the *Second*, which is the next, and the *Migeau*, which is the less. The other Names of *Spanish* Wool, or Wool esteemed as *Spanish*, are *Albarazin*, *Sorie Segoviane*, or *de los Rios*, the *Sorie* common, *Caseres* or *small Segovie*, *Segeweuse Segoviane*, *Segeweuse de Moline*, *Floretonnes de Segovie*, and *Floretonnes common*, of *Navarre* and *Arragon*, the *Cabesas* of *Estramadoure*, and the *petits Campo* of *Seville* and *Mallagis*.

13. Besides the several Cloths ^a abovementioned, in the Fabric whereof ^a §. 11. *Spanish* Wools are employed, they are also used for making Cloth Stockings, Waistcoats, Socks, and other the most fine Works of *Bonneterie* †.

C H A P. CLII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce : *Memoirs concerning the* Page 945.
Wools of Castile and Arragon, (taken in the Year 1719) and
of the WOOLS of Portugal.

1. **T**HE Wools of *Castile*, i. e. they that are comprehended under the Name of *Lanas Castillas*, are, *Segovianas Leonisas* : *Les Segovias* : *Les Sorias* : *Les Molinas*.

2. The Wools of *Arragon* are also of four Sorts, viz. *Albarazins fine*, *Albarazins middle*, the *Campos*, and the *black Wool* of *Saragossa*. They call the Wool that comes from *Navarre*, *Fleuretons* *.

3. The Wools of *Castile*, and the *Albarazins*, are sent to *Roan*, *Holland*, and *England*. The *Campos*, and *black Wools* of *Saragossa*, go to *Rochelle*, for

† *Bonneterie*, i. e. Caps, Waistcoats, &c. or whatever else is knit or wove, after the manner of Stockings.

* The *Agnelin's* are Wools shorn from Lambs, of which there are as many Sorts as the Wools mentioned above.

the Manufactures of *Poitou*. The *Fleuretons* go to *Bretagne* or *Rochelle*. The *Agnelins* every where, especially to *Bretagne*.

The several
Ways of buy-
ing Wool at
Madrid.

4. There are five different Ways of buying Wool at *Madrid*, viz. 1. Upon the Sheeps Backs, to wash and triage themselves. 2. All washed and triaged, by Weight, according to the Custom of *Bilboa*, and to be delivered at a Place certain. 3. In like Manner, washed and triaged, but in the Place where the washing and Triage was performed, delivered upon the Spot, and sent by the Purchasers themselves to *Bilboa* or *Bayonne*. 4. At a certain fixed Price, as the Buyer and Seller shall agree. 5. At a Price uncertain, i. e. to pay for one Pile, what other Piles of the same Quality shall be sold for. This last is a precarious Method; and the Buyer † seldom finds his Account in it.

5. The Time of shearing the Sheep in *Castile*, is towards the Month of *May* and *June*. At the same Time that they shear their Sheep, they put their Wool into Piles: Then they wash them, and take out the Grease and Dirt. This Time of washing continues to the Month of *August*.

6. Though in this washing, something is done towards taking out the Grease from the Wool, in order to render it fit for Work, yet must it not be expected to be hereby entirely cleansed of its Grease, but of the Dirt and Ordure wherewith it was soiled.

7. The first Work, after this, is to card it; and in order to carding, it requires some Oil. That which is to be employed in Whites, or the natural Colour of the Wool, may remain in the Oil. But the Wools or Stuffs that are to be dyed, require to be clean scoured.

§. 9.

8. The Waste that there is of Wool, *en suin*, when it is well washed, is commonly 53 per Cent. i. e. 17 *Arobes* of Wool *en suin*, produces only eight *Arobes* of washed Wool, which make commonly one Bale. The Waste in Wools is not always the same; Experience shews, that if there is no Rain in the Time of Shearing, then it is most; and on the contrary, if that Season is rainy, then it is less. The Reason is, because the Rain at such Time carries off a Part of the Grease and Soil, while the Wool is yet upon the Sheeps Backs, and also after shearing, while it lies in the Piles, in order to washing.

† This is a Method sometimes used in *England*, but in which the Sellers (as has been observed) seldom find their Account. Thus is the Difference, in that respect, between *Spain* and *England*, plainly the Difference of a free, and of a monopolized Market.

9. Mr. Mondoteguy, Author of the *Traite de Abitrages*, supposes 400 Pounds of Wool, *en surge*, as it is taken from the Sheeps Back, to make one Bale, of eight *Arobes*, or 200 Pounds of washed Wool, taking the *Arobe* upon the Foot of 25 Pounds. This Proportion, of half Waste, nevertheless is not entirely just, for all Sorts of Wool. For Example, 25 Pounds of Wool of *Segovie*, *en surge*, afford 12 Pounds and an half of washed Wool; 25 Pounds called *Soria*, 11 Pounds, and 25 called *d'Arragon*, from nine and an half to ten Pounds.

10. To wash these a second Time, as they ought to be, in order to make Cloth, they lose again 20 Pounds *per Cent*.

11. They make commonly as many Piles as there are different Sorts of Page 947. Wool. There are Piles of *Segovianas*, *Sorias*, *Molinas*, *Albarazins*. Nevertheless, among Piles of the same Sort, there are some better than others. For Example, the Piles of *Segovianas Leonisas*, those of the *Escorial*, the Piles of *Mondejos*, and *Orloga*. The different Sorts have a different Price. The *Segovianas Leonisas* are more dear than the *Sorias*. They are called *Leonisas*, to distinguish them from the *Segovianas*, singly, because the Sheep are fed upon the Mountains of *Leon*, which are excellent Pasturage.

12. The Price of Wool *per Pound* in *France*, bought (1719*) at *Bilboa*, Page 950. *viz.* washed and triaged.

				<i>Livres</i>	<i>Sols</i>
The Bale, prime Cost	—	—	—	600	00
Freight, &c.	—	—	—	62	04
			Total.	662	04

The neat Weight at *Rouen* is 164 *lb.* So that dividing 662 *Liv. Sol. Dern.*
Livres 4 *sols* by 164 ; each Pound comes to ——— 4 00 9.

				<i>Livres</i>	<i>Sols</i>	<i>Dern.</i>
Of another Sort,						
The Bale, prime Cost,	—	—		574	00	0
Freight, &c.	—	—	—	62	04	0
Which divided, as before, by 164, is <i>per lib.</i>	—			3	17	7

* The Author gives it to be understood, that by reason of the War, about this Time, between *France* and *Spain*, Wool came dear to *France*, and that it has been much cheaper since.

The Price of Wool *per* Pound bought *en Suin*, i. e. unwashed.

			Livres Sols Dern.		
The Bale is,	—	—	526	00	0
Freight, &c.	—	—	62	04	0
			588	04	0
Which divided as before, is	—	—	* 3	11	9

It is to be observed concerning Wool *en Suin*, that on Account of the two Bales, *Second*, and one, *Tierce*, which compose a Pile of fifteen Bales, the Prime of the Wool noted as above, 3 *Livres* 11 *Sols* 9 *Dern.* must be rated 2 *Sols per lib.* dearer. According to which Calculation, the twelve Bales *de Prime*, cost at Rouen, *per lib.*

				Livres Sols Dern.		
				3	13	9
The two Bales, <i>Second</i>	—	—	—	2	15	4
One Bale, <i>Tierce</i>	—	—	—	1	17	0
				l.	s.	d.
Price of Spanish Wools 1719. Page 951.	Segovianas Leonisas, <i>per lib.</i> at a Medium	—	—	3	15	0
	The others in Proportion, viz. Segovias	—	—	3	05	0
	Sorias	—	—	2	18	0
	Molinas	—	—	2	16	0
	Albarazines fins	—	—	2	18	0
	De Moyens	—	—	2	12	0
	Campo fins	—	—	2	10	0
	De Moyens	—	—	2	08	0
	Laines Noires (black Wool) of Saragosse	—	—	2	12	0
	Fleuretons de Navarre	—	—	2	14	0

* I don't know how to reconcile this high Price of Wool, (*en suin*) as a Fact, with the two foregoing Examples, and what has been said concerning the Waste of such Wool, when it comes to be washed, (see §. 8, 9, 10.) unless it is hereby intended to give the Price of so much Wool bought *en suin*, as, when washed, amounted by Computation to a Bale; and in this View it is very intelligible, making the Difference, of about 9 at the most, or at the least, 5 *Sols per* Pound, for the Labour of washing it: See (§. 4.) the five different Ways of purchasing Wool at Madrid, viz. upon the Sheeps Backs, the Purchasers themselves to wash and triage it; which I conceive is the same with what is here meant, by Wool bought *en suin*, i. e. unwashed, but to be paid for by Weight, when triaged and washed; or rather, I should imagine, bought with Allowance made in the Weight for the necessary Waste in washing: as for Instance (according to Mr. Mondoteguy's *m Traite de Arbitrages*) to have two Pounds of the best Wool unwashed at the Price of one Pound washed, and, of the middle and inferior Wools, yet more in proportion.

^m See §. 9.

13. The

13. The Pile of the *Escorial* is the best Wool of *Spain* that is bought up by Strangers. It belongs to the Religious there, and affords them a yearly Revenue of 40,000 Piafters. The Piles which come nearest to the *Escorial*, are those of *Munos*, *Mondejos*, *Orlega*, *de Torre* and *Paular*; 1000 or 1200 Bales of this Wool are to be found at *Madrid*.

14. The Woods of *Portugal* do not differ much from those of *Spain*, and they pass commonly for those of *Segovie*. The Cloths made of them, are very soft in the Hand. But the Makers don't chuse this Wool, because the Nature of it is such, that it fulls more in the Length than the Breadth; so that it comes short from the Fuller; which is a Loſs to the Merchant.

C H A P. CLIII.

Dictionnaire Univerſel du Commerce.

Of the Wools of Holland, &c. of England, Scotland, and Ireland; of Germany, the North, and Lorrain, and of the Levant, &c.

1. THERE comes from *Holland* two Sorts of Wool. Those of the Growth of the Country; and those that the *Dutch* have from *Germany*, *Pomerania*, *Dantzick*, *Prussia*, *Brunswick*, *Paderborn*, &c. These are commonly combed and spun in *Flanders*; of which they make very fine wove Stockins, and some fine Cloth.*

2. The Commerce of Wool is one of the most considerable Branches of Trade in *Amsterdam*; and the most distinct Account we have of it, is in the *Traite le Negoce d'Amsterdam*, by *Sieur Jean Pierre Ricard**, published 1722.

3. The *English* have been always jealous of their Wools; but this Jealousy † has been increased since the Middle of the 17th Century: It is a capital

Page 952.
Wools from
Holland.

* See
Ch. 172.

Page 954.

Wools of
England
Scotland and
Ireland.

* Here observe, it is said, very fine wove Stockins and some fine Cloth. And can we discredit this? Or can we believe it, and at the same time think of obtaining a *Monopoly* in foreign Markets, upon a Belief that Foreigners can't uphold their Manufacturies without *English* or *Irish* Wool? Or is it reasonable to create a *Monopoly* against the *English* Grower of the *Material*, when nothing like one can be acquired for the *Manufacture*?

† Jealousy, a proper Word enough, as it sometimes is used to denote Fondness, without Discretion; or Suspicion, without Cause. The Truth is, the *English Merchants of the Staple*, first, heretofore;

capital Crime to sell it abroad. Tho' the Wools of *Scotland* and *Ireland* pass abroad for *English*; yet Foreigners skilled in those Matters, find they come far short of it in Fineness and Goodness. Nevertheless some esteem the *Irish* Wool to be finest. The Sheep that produce these precious † Fleeces are of two Kinds, the one large, the other small.

4. The excellent Pastures, and fine short Grass on which these Sheep feed, and which is plentiful in all Seasons, does not a little contribute to the Fineness of their Wool. But we believe it contributes much to their Goodness, that they have Convenience of feeding upon these Pastures, all the Year round, without being obliged to be shut up in Houses, except in very rigorous Seasons. Besides, there being no Wolves in *England*, they are secure at all times.

5. Mr. *Colbert*, whose Memory will ever be respected by all Lovers of their Country, had formed a Design of transporting *English* Sheep to *France*; hoping that by chusing for them, in the Provinces of *France*, Pasturage, and a Climate much like that of their Isle, they should be able to propagate and perpetuate the Kind. But the Count *de Cominges*, then Ambassador at *London*, shewed him the Impossibility of transporting them, and almost the equal Impossibility of preserving the Kind, when transported. So that this Minister was obliged to abandon a Project, which it was glorious for him to have entertained, altho' it could not be executed.*

6. The great Precautions of the *English* Government against exporting Wool, render it more scarce || among their Neighbours; but they don't entirely

heretofore; since them, the *English* Staplers or Wool Jobbers, and the Manufacturers, have constantly thirsted after a Monopoly of the *English* Wools.

† Precious Fleeces. Mr. *Savary* had before applied this Epithet to the Wools of *Spain* and *Portugal*; and it is equally proper to some of the *English* Fleeces; which by their Weight or Quantity, are of great Value; although Pound for Pound, the Wool is not of the greatest, especially in the *English* Markets. And as to the smaller Sheep of *England*, those of *Cotswold*, the *Isle of Wight*, &c. how does this Encomium (*precious*) agree with the Weight of their Fleeces, (which are but light, like the *Spanish*) and with the Price at which they are ordinarily sold in *England*; which is not only below the lowest Wools of *Spain*, at *Amsterdam*, but even below the coarse Wools of *Germany*, and the yet coarser of *Tours* in *France*. (See Chap. 162. §. 7. Ch. 171, 172.)

* This is a Story, at the best, spoiled in the telling. For Instance, it represents the Business, of transporting *English* Sheep, as the greatest Difficulty in this Case, whereas the Pasturage †, common Sense will teach us, was the main Point. Besides, was the celebrated Mr. *Colbert* such a Novice in these Matters, to want to be instructed by the Count *de Cominges*? And whatever it was that passed between these two great Persons, on this Subject, (as something probably did) must not that something have been worthy of the Characters of able Men, Ministers of *France*? (See §. 7. Note.)

² Ch. 2. Note.

† *Ovium summa genera duo sunt; Pinguis & campestris Situs ² proceras Oves tolerat, &c.*

|| That is, (we should so understand it) more scarce, than if Wool, from *England*, was allowed

entirely prevent it. The *English* make use of long Winter Nights to convey them, and prefer a certain considerable Gain to the Dangers even of Death, which they have a Chance to escape. This intrepid Nation looks with Indifference upon that Danger, which is a Terror to most other People.

7. The finest *English* Wool comes from *Canterbury*, either uncombed, or combed, ready for spinning. It is that Wool, whereof they make in *England*, the most fine * and serviceable Cloth that can be seen. They make use of it in *France* for their finest Cloths, and other their finest WOOLEN STUFFS. The Manufacturers have so well imitated the *English*, that the *English* themselves cannot distinguish the Difference. And it is only Prepossession of Opinion, and a natural Fondness for Things that come from abroad, that make the People prefer foreign Manufacture to that of the Kingdom.

8. The best *English* Wool ^b is, that of *Leominster* in *Herefordshire*, of *Cotswold* in *Gloucestershire*, and of the *Isle of Wight* in *Hampshire*. It is so fine that the Stuff, thereof made, comes near to Silk ^c. And the Country produces such Quantities of it, that besides the Consumption of it made in the *British Isles*, an incredible Quantity of *English* Cloth is sent to foreign Parts.

^b Ch. 150.
§. 1

^c Ch. 150.
§. 2.
Chamberlayne
&c.

9. There is also a great deal of *English* Wool consumed in *France* for Tapestry, *Hautlisse* and *Baslisse*, or made with the Needle upon Canvas, especially for white and fire Colour; and those Wools are called *Laine de Gobelins*; because they are all dyed there by those able Dyers, who have been established there for above half a Century, and have render'd themselves so famous there, by their admirable dying, that they are not inferior to those of *Holland*.

10. One other considerable Consumption of *English* Wool in *France*, is in wove Stockins †, that are called Stockins de *Bouchon*, from, the Man-

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ner

to be freely exported. This is both intelligible, and certain. But as confessedly these Precautions don't entirely prevent it, so neither is it certainly more scarce, in *France* for Instance, than if these Precautions centered in a Duty on Wool exported, instead of an absolute Prohibition. For a Prohibition, we perceive, by long and abundant Experience, amounts but to a limited Exportation of Wool.

* Mr. *Savary*, the Author of this Dictionary, tells his Readers, in his Preface, that he would not be answerable for all the several Memoirs, from which he had transcribed. And this, I think, is a Paragraph from one of those which are to be read with some Grains of Allowance, for being wrote in the hyperbolic Style, by an Author, probably *English*, and no Manufacturer; otherwise he would not have talked of making the most fine Cloth with *English* Wool.

^d See §. 8.

† Does not this prove, against the Bulk of *English* Writers, that the Advantage, of mixing *English*

ner in which the Wool is wraped up hard, in order to its Conveyance to *France*. This Wool is very long and very fine, and comes ready combed from *England*.

11. For the Wools of *Scotland* and *Ireland*, they being nearly like to those of *England*, are put to pretty near the same uses, except that being less fine, and more common, the Stuffs made of them, are not so much esteemed, nor so saleable. The most Part of these Wools come ready combed, and they are commonly spun in *Picardy*.

Wools of
Germany,
the North,
and Lorrain.

• Ch. 172.
§. 1, 2, 3, 4

12. Besides all those Wools, of which we have just spoke, and which are the finest and best which Strangers furnish to *France*, there comes yet a great Quantity from *Germany* and the *North*; which, though of an inferior Quality, are employed in many Stuffs and other Works. They have commonly the Names of the Places whence they come, as Wools of *Rosstock*, *Gripfwalde*, *Stralund d'Anclam**, *Stetin*, *Thoorn*, *Dantzick*, &c. They have nevertheless sometimes their proper Names; but they add always the Names of the Kingdoms, States or Cities, whence they are sent, as *Bluette du Rhin*, *Wool de Eté de Pologne*, *Wool Brunyere du Rhin*, *de Wismar*, *Plure de Mulhausen*, *de Wismar*, *du Rhin*; *Fine grise*, *Kiste*, &c. There is also a great Trade for Wool in *Lorrain*; of which there is an extraordinary Produce there, having MANY SHEEP. The best Part of these Wools go to *Liege* and *Champagne*.

Page 956.
Wools of the
Levant.

13. There are also Wools of the *Levant*, v. g. *Pelades*, fine and common *Tresquiles* or *Surges*, *les Batardes*, *les Ipsola*, and *l'Estain* of *Constantinople*; Wools *Serges* of *Aleppo*, of *Alexandria*, of *Cyprus*, black *Batardes* of *Aleppo*; Wools *de Chevron*, black, of *Smyrna* and *Persia*, *Chevrons* reddish and white, fine and common, of *Smyrna*, of *Satalia*. Finally, *Mattelins* of the *Morea* and *Barbary*.

Page 957.

14. Wool *Auxy* is the finest spun Wool about *Abbeville*. Wool *Trice*, is Wool sorted. *Laine Basse*, or *Basse Laine*, is the shortest and finest Wool of the Fleece. Many give it the Name of *Fine*, on the Account of its great Fineness. That Sort of Wool, when spun, is commonly employed to make the Shoot or Woof of Tapestry, Cloths, *Ratines*, and other like fine Stuffs, for which Reason, the Manufacturers call it *Laine trame*. It is

§. 1.

English with *French* Wool, is not any thing like what has been represented at least? if it was, can it be imagined that the *French* would use any *English* Wool alone; and that only for wove Stockins, a Manufacture, wherein they are rivalled, not only by wove Stockins made of the Wools of *Holland* and *Germany* &c. but by Stockins of *Silk*, of *Cotton*, of *Thread*; all which are commonly preferred to Worsted?

of

of that kind of Wool which the Stockin Weavers and Knitters use. The Spaniards and Portuguese give it the Name of *Prime*, or best. So they say, *Prime Segovie*. Wool *en suiff*, *en suin*, Wool *Surge*, are the same, i. e. Wool unwashed, in its Dirt and Grease. *Laine de Eté de Pologne* is one of the finest Wools of the North ^s. §. 12.

C H A P. CLIV.

Of the Commerce of Marseilles, in the Year 1688. By Sieur Gaspar Carfevil, Merchant of Marseilles. A new Edition (*Appendix to Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*) with Additions, distinguishing in Italics, the State of Trade, and the Price of Commodities there, in 1727, 1739, 1740. Vol. 3. Commerce of Marseilles.

1. THERE come from Smyrna to Marseilles, from 1800 to 2000 Quintals of Wool, of three Sorts, v. g. *fine Wool*, from 17 to 18 ^{Append. p. 19.} Livres the Quintal; *Batard Wool*, from 13 to 14 Livres; *Metelin Surges*, from 11 to 12 Livres. From Constantinople, 2 or 3000 Quintals of the following Wools. *Laines Pelades*, or Skin Wool, fine, from 22 to 32 Livres; the coarse Skin Wool, from 14 to 15 Livres. Wool *Tresquilles*, Surges, 16—17 Livres; Wool *Tresquilles* coarse, Surges, 13—14 Livres; *Iffolat*, Surges, 15—26 Livres the Quintal*; *De Satalie Turquimani*, 350 or 400 Quintals, which are employed in making Quilts in Provence, Languedoc, and Piedmont. From Tripoli, of Syria, by Seyde and Cyprus, 5 or 600 Quintals, at 12 or 13 Livres. From Alexandria, from 800 to 1000 Quintals, at 14 or 15 Livres the Quintal. They serve to make Quilts, and are used at Lyons, Rouen, and in other Parts of France. From Alexandria in Egypt, 80 or 90 Quintals, which serve for Drapery, at 14 or 15 Livres the Quintal; which are sold in Provence and Languedoc. From Tripoli, Tunis, Algier, and that Coast, 1500 or 2000 Quintals, employed to make coarse Cloths, Blankets

* Though these are seemingly but low Prices for Wool, yet we can say the less about them, as they are not only Wools, the intrinsic Goodness whereof we are unacquainted with, but also, *en Surge*; wherein the Waste is considerable, before they are reduced to the Condition in which the English Wools are always sold. We have seen ^h that the Waste of Wool, *en Surge*, the best of *Segovie*, in the first washing, besides the Expence of Labour, is one Half; and that in inferior Sorts, the Waste by washing, and, it may be presumed, the Expence also, is still more. Moreover, the Quintal, or 100 lb. of Marseilles, is but 81 lb. of Amsterdam. ^h Chap. 152. §. 9.

and Quilts, at 14 or 15 Livres the Quintal; sold in *Provence, Languedoc*, and further in *France*. From the *Morea*, 800 to 1000 Quintals, for Blankets and Quilts, at 9 or 10 Livres the Quintal; sold in *Provence, Languedoc*, and *Italy*. All these Wools come *Surge*, or in their Dirt.

2. From *Spain* there come ordinarily 15 or 16,000 Quintals of Wool, *Surge*; 4 or 5000 Quintals of Skin Wool from *Majorca, Catalonia, Alicant, Almerie, Valence, Carthage*, and *Malaga*. But within a Year, there has not come the sixth Part; the Reason is, because they have been bought up in great Quantities, at an extraordinary Price, for *Holland*. Formerly, there came *Albarazins*, 1000 or 1500 Quintals, and Skin Wool 7 or 800 Quintals.

ⁱ A.D. 1688. These Wools were formerly at 20 and 22 Livres the Quintal; nowⁱ, are 28—30 Livres; the *Albarazins*, from 70 * to 80 Livres; the *Skin Wool*, 5 or 6 Livres above the common *Spanish Surges*. The Consumption is made in *Provence, Languedoc, Dauphiny, Piedmont*.

In 1740†, the Wools of *Castile and Arragon* sold for 38 Livres the Quintal.

3. From *Sally and Tetouan* come ordinarily 3 or 4000 Quintals, the most Part *Surges*, and the 20th Part Skin Wool. There comes but little in Time of War. The *Surge* is sold from 14 to 15 Livres the Quintal. The Skin Wool, from 17 to 18 Livres.

In 1739, there came from *Constantinople*, 1632 Bales of Skin Wool, 114 Bales of Wool from *Panorme*. From *Smyrna*, 50 Bales of Skin Wool, 50 Bales of *Surge*, 11 Bales of reddish Wool of *Perfia*, 21 Bales of *Bastard Wool*, 310 Bales of Wool *tresquille fine*. From *Alexandria, Cyprus, Tripoli*, 204 Bales, and 228 Bales. From *Cavallo*, 247 Bales of Skin Wool, 31 Bales of *Surge*, 18 Bales of *tresquille*. From *Salonica*, 323 Bales of Wool *Surge*, 932 Bales of Wool. From *Algier*, 20 Bales of Wool *Surge*. From *Barbary*, 406 Bales. From *Bonne*, 420 Bales. From *Spain*, 2641 Bales. From *Italy, Naples, Leghorn, and Genoa*, 500 Bales of white Wool, &c.

* The Wools of *Spain* are commonly distinguished into two Sorts, viz. *fine*, called by Way of Eminence *Spanish Wool*, and ordinary, or coarse low-priced * Wool; and these here mentioned §. 3, 4. (comparing the same with Ch. 152. §. 12.) we suppose to be of the better Sort.

† Comparing this with the immediate foregoing Paragraph, we find that in 1740, Wools of *Spain* were at about half the Price they sold for in 1688.

C H A P. CLV.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce : *The Manufactures established in Paris and other Parts of France.*

1. **T**H E Woolen Manufactures of *France* are, *Cloth, Serges, Ratines, Baracans, Camblets, Calamancos, Tammies, Crapes, Bayes, Perpetuanas, Flannels, &c. Frizes, Anacostes, Druggets, &c.* all of Wool, or of Wool and Thread mixt. Tome 2. p. 1188.

2. It is to *Monsieur Colbert*, Superintendant General of Arts and Manufactures, ^k that this Kingdom is indebted for the first Establishment of those *Manufacturies* * which are now become the most flourishing¹ in *Europe*. ^k See §. 6. Note. ¹ Chap. 156.

3. There have been a Number of good Regulations made concerning them, viz. in *August 1669, August 1700; March and May 1701, &c.* Page 1189. *Royal Manufactory* is a Manufactory established by Letters Patents from the King.

4. Several Persons have been famous for the setting up of Manufacturies Page 1192. in *France*, at several Times, and particularly since *Hen. IV.* But two especially have distinguished themselves in this Way, 1. *Nicholas Cadeau*, who founded and brought to Perfection the Manufactory at *Sedan*. 2. *Joseph Vanrobais*, who established that of *Abbeville*, which long has been, and is yet, in high Reputation. The *first* was a Native of *France*, who in the Year 1646, joining himself with *John Binet* and *Yves* of *Marseilles*, two other rich Traders, obtained Letters Patents, given at *Fontainebleau* in the Month of *July* of the same Year, for his new Manufactory.

5. By these Letters Patents, the Company had the sole making (for twenty Years) of black and coloured Cloths, like those of *Holland*. These three *Patentees* and their Children, born, and to be born, were ennobled †,

* The Words *Manufactory*, and *Manufactory* or *Manufactory*, are by several Authors used a little too indiscriminately; whereas, in Propriety of Speech, *Manufactory*, and *Manufactory*, have different Significations; the one denoting the Art, or the Stuff itself, manufactured; the other, in a larger Sense, the whole Design for setting on Foot and maintaining such a particular Work, in any particular Place or Part of a Country; in which Sense, is here to be understood the Word *Manufactory* m, as said to be established by Mr. *Colbert*. (See §. 3.) just as we say m See §. 6. Note.
Distillery, Brewery, Foundry, &c.

† Ennobled. But Query, if the Word, in this Place, signifies exactly what we understand by it in *Great Britain*? I apprehend not, but rather some other Privileges, of which, not knowing precisely the Constitutions of that Kingdom, we have not an exact Idea.

and

and honoured with all Titles, &c. of the Nobles of *France*. The King gave not only each of them a Pension of 500 Livres yearly, during their Lives, but also assisted them with a Stock of 8000 Livres a Year, during the Term of their Patent. The Success of this new Manufactory exceeded all Expectation. And the Cloths which we call *Draps de Sedan*, from the Name of the City where made, might be esteemed the finest of their Kind, if those of *Abbeville* had not their *Partisans*, who contend for their being at least equal to them.

Page 1193.

6. The Privilege exclusive of *Sieur Cadeau* †, was near expiring, when *Sieur Vanrobais*, a *Dutch* Merchant, desired to set up a new Manufactory of fine Cloths, after the Fashion of *Spain* and *Holland*, which he proposed to make at *Abbeville* in *Picardie*. His Letters Patents bore Date, *October* 1669, of which the principal Clauses were: For 30 Looms: For a requisite Number of Fulling-Mills, and 50 Workmen to be brought from *Holland*; with Passports for the same, Exemption from all Taxes, &c. for their Looms, Cloth, Wool, &c. In short, to facilitate the Establishment, the King gave him, as a free Gift, 12,000 Livres, and lent him 2000 Livres for every Loom he should set up, during the three first Years, without Interest.

7. The said *Vanrobais*, having fulfilled his Engagements, had his Patent renewed to him and his eldest Son, in 1681, for 15 Years more; on Condition that he should set up 50 Looms instead of 30. In Consideration of

n Ch. 125.
§. 1. Note.

o Ch. 71. §. 9.
Chap. 128.
§. 3, 10-14.

p Chap. 94.
§. 18.

† It is to be observed, that though the Original of the particular *Manufacturies* of the *Sieur Cadeau*, and of *Vanrobais*, are here mentioned, yet are we not to date from thence (as some Writers have done) the Beginning of Woollen Manufacture, or even of making Cloth in *France*; much less are we to suppose that these two particular *Manufacturies* received any Support from *English* and *Irish* Wool, (deducing thence the Owling Trade) for in these was used *only Spanish Wool*. And whereas it is said, they made Cloth after the Fashion of *Holland*, *Spain*, and *England*, or *English-like*; these were but technical Names for certain fine Cloths; just as we say *Serge de Nismes*, *German Serge*, &c, though made in *England*, of *English Wool*. And the Reason why the Government in *France* was at such an Expence, to encourage these two particular *Manufacturies*, was plainly this: The making of fine broad Cloth is, in all Regards, the most difficult and the most beneficial Part of Woollen Manufacture; requiring the largest Stocks to carry it on to Advantage. In this, the *Dutch* principally, when these *Manufacturies* were erected, being superior to the *French*, they had the supplying, in a great Measure, the Court and Kingdom of *France* with their *finest Cloths*; the Expence of which was so much, as to make a considerable Article against them, in the general Balance of their Trade. And therefore, the first View that Nation had, in erecting those *Manufacturies*, was, to supply their own Occasions, and thereby save a large Sum of Money within the Kingdom, which they had been used to pay to foreign Labour. To effectuate which, besides these positive Encouragements to Undertakers, and their Charters exclusive, (which, by the way, are what would not have been endured in a free Country, as *England* is,) they laid high Duties upon all foreign *Woollen Manufactures*, and among the rest, as much on *Spanish*, as on any other foreign Cloths; nay, the Duties on *them* were continued the same, after those of *Holland* were lowered from 80 to 55 Livres. (See Ch. 178. §. 18, 19.)

which,

which, the King remitted to him 20,000 Livres, of the 80,000 that had been lent to him, within the three first Years of his former Grant.

8. A third Patent, in the Year 1698, was granted to *Isaac* and *Jos. Vanrobais*, two Brothers, Sons of the first Undertaker, who had now set up 80 Looms. Which Number, in 1708, was increased to above 100 ; when the said *Jos. Vanrobais*, in Partnership with his Brother *Isaac's* Widow, being desirous to erect still more Building, in order to extend this flourishing Establishment, the like whereof perhaps was not to be met with, obtained, that same Year, a *fourth Grant*, with further Privileges, for fifteen Years to come. One of which Privileges was, a Permission to all Noblemen * to enter into the Partnership, without Derogation to their Titles and Honours.

C H A P. CLVI.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of French Cloths, and the other several Sorts of Woolen Manufacture practised in France ; and of the Wools used therein.

1. **CLOTHS** are made of different Qualities, some fine, some middling, some coarse, or strong ; some dyed in the Wool, of different Colours, *i. e.* the Wool whereof has been dyed and mixed, before it was spun and worked in the Loom. Others are made all white, to be dyed, scarlet, black, blue, &c. Their Breadths and Lengths are different, according to their Quality and the Places where made. *Tom. 2. Of Cloths, p. 106.*

2. Almost all the Cloths that are seen in *France*, are the Manufacture of the Kingdom ; nevertheless, they have some from foreign Countries ; especially, in Time of Peace, from *Spain, England, and Holland*.

3. The fine Cloths are of three Qualities ; *the first* is made of the fine Wool of *Segovia*, without any Mixture ; *the second*, of *Segovia* Wool, with that of *Albarazin*, second *Segovia* and Wool of *Soris* ; *the third*, of other middle Sorts of *Spanish* Wool.

* See §. 5. Note.

4. Many

4. Many Manufacturies of this Kingdom, especially those of *Languedoc*, *Dauphine*, and *Provence*, afford Quantities for the *Levant*, from *Marseilles*. These Cloths, whose Names, Qualities, Lengths, Breadths, &c. are different from those worn in the Kingdom, have been the Subject of many Laws *.

Page 113.

5. The Cloths called *Londrins premieres*, are to be made of Wool, *prime Segovie*, both Warp and Woof: *Londrins seconds* must have for the Warp, Wool *Soria*, or Wool of equal Quality; for the Woof, *second Segovie*. *Londres grandes* must be made of the best Wool of *Languedoc*. *Lower Dauphine*, *Gandie*, *Rouffillon*, grand *Albarazin*, and others of like Quality. *Londres* must be made of *le fleuret de Laine de Languedoc*, low *Dauphiny*, *Gandie*, petit *Albarazin*, or others of like Quality. *Draps Seizans*, of Wool, of *Languedoc*, low *Dauphiny*, or *Spanish Wool*, of like Quality.

Page 114.
Rules, Apr.
27, 1706.

6. They shall not employ in the Manufactory of *Romorentin* other than the Wools of *Berry*, *Sologne*, and Wools of *Spain*, *prime Segovie*, *prime Soria*, and *prime Segoviane* only; without employing other *Spanish Wools*, of an inferior Quality, or the Wools of *Navarre*, or *Barbary*, or any other Wool.

Page 115.

August 1718.

7. Rules, August 21, 1718. for the making of Cloths in the Provinces of *Burgogne*, *Bresse*, *Bugey*, *Valromey* and *Gex*, viz. of whites and of different Colours at *Dijon* and *Selonges*, *Sommieres*, *Auxois*, *Auxer Montbard*, *Avalon*, *Saulien*, *Chatillon* upon the *Seine*, *Montcenis* *Louans*, *La Charite de Macon*, *Cluny* and *Paray le Monial*. Common Cloths called *Sardis*, that are made at *Bourge en Bresse*, *Pondeveaux*, *Montluel*, and other Places.

Page 116.

8. Besides *Draps*, (i. e. full Cloths) there is a Manufacture of *Petit Draps* (Stuffs of Wool) which are commonly used for Linings, viz. *Serges* of *Aumalle*, of *Beavais*, and others, *Frizes*, *Frizons*, *Feltins*, &c.

Page 129.
Druggets.

9. *Druggets* are a Stuff of Wool, or of Wool and Thread, some broad, but most of them narrow. They are sometimes called *Pinchinas* †, though far from like what, of that Name, comes from *Toulon* and *Chalons*, in *Champagne*. The Places in *France*, where *Druggets* are chiefly made, are *le Lude*, *Amboise*, *Partenay*, *Niort*, *Rheims*, *Rouen*, *Darnatal*, *Verneuil* in *Perche*,

Page 130.

Tom. 3. p.
202.

* ' Les premiers Statuts du Corps de la Draperie sont de l'année 1188, sous le Regne de Philippe August.' Tom. 2. p. 122.

† ' *Pinchina*, a kind of coarse and strong Cloth made at and about *Toulon*, Ell broad. There are that are made all of *Spanish Wool* only, others of Wool of the Country entirely; the first are chiefly sold in *France*; the rest, for the most Part, in *Italy*, *Barbary*, and the *Arabipelago*. *Chalons* furnishes a Stuff of Wool very strong, Ell wide, called *Pinchinas*, because its Quality comes pretty near to the true *Pinchinas* of *Toulon*.'

Troyes, Chaumont in Bassigny, Langres and Chalons in Champagne. There are also very fine Druggets made, but of a particular Sort, at *Bedarieux* in *Languedoc*, and many adjacent Villages, which are sold in *Germany*.

9. The Druggets of *Lude* are of Wool entirely, both Warp and Woof. At *Amboise* are made of two Sorts, of Wool entirely, the one *Croisés* †, the others *not Croisés*. The Druggets of *Partenay* are made, some of Wool only; others, the Warp of Thread, the Woof of Wool. *Niort* affords Druggets, all of Wool; some *Croisés*, others not, half Ell-wide. The *Croisés* are the most esteemed, being for the most Part close wrought, and very strong. The Druggets of *Rheims* are *not Croisés*, half Ell-wide, commonly made of nothing but Wool *prime Segovie*, spun very fine, which gives them a Superiority to all the other || Druggets manufactured in *France*, which are generally made of the Wool of the Country, coarse spun.

10. At *Roan* are made three Sorts of Druggets *not Croisés*. The one made of Wool only, half Ell-wide, &c. Another called *Berluche*, or *Breluche*, the Woof Wool, the Warp Thread. This second Sort of Druggets comes very near in Goodness and Price to those of *Verneuil* in *Perche*. The last, commonly called *Espagnolettes*, are entirely of Wool, hairy on one Side, and sometimes on both, which makes them very warm. These Druggets *Espagnolettes* are made of different Qualities; one very fine, of *Spanish* Wool only; others less fine, of *Spanish* Wool mixed with the Wool of the Country; others of the Wool of the Country only, which are the coarser and of less Value. They are made white, and dyed, after that, of different Colours.

11. The Druggets of *Darnetal* are like to those of *Roan*, in Goodness, Length, and Breadth.

12. *Verneuil* in *Perche*, furnishes Druggets half Ell-wide, from 42 to 65 Ells long, the Warp Thread, the Woof Wool of the Country, very coarse. They are of a low Price, viz. about 13 or 14 Sols the Ell. They are consumed commonly at *Beauvais*, the *Orleanois*, and Country adjacent to *Paris*, for clothing the Peasants. The Druggets of *Troyes* are *Croisés*, on one Side, and not on the other. The Woof is of Wool, the Warp of Thread. They are not much better than those of *Verneuil*. At *Chaumont* in *Bassigny*, and at *Langres*, are Druggets like those of *Troyes*.

† *Croisés*, a technical Term.

|| These, I suppose to have been the *French Druggets*, which, in the Time of King *Charles II.* were much worn in *England*. (See Chap. 51. §. 10. Chap. 55. §. 3. Note. Chap. 57. §. 6.)

13. At *Chalons* in *Champagne*, are made *Druggets*, all of *Wool*. They are called *Espagnolettes*, and their *Quality* is very good. There are few, except *Druggets Espagnolettes* of *Roan* and *Darnetal*, and some *Druggets* with *Thread*, that are dyed in the *Piece*; the others are dyed in the *Wool*, i. e. the *Wool* of which they are made, is dyed of several *Colours*, before it is carded, spun, and weaved.

Serges. Tom.
3. p. 756.

14. *Serge* is a *Stuff* of *Wool*, manufactured after a certain *Manner*. They have different *Names* given by the *Merchants* and their *Makers*, to distinguish and render them more esteemed. Their *Price* is different, according to the different *Sorts* and *Qualities* and *Places* where made, viz. *Serge de Seigneur*, *Serge a la Reigne*, *Serge Imperial*, &c. *Serge raze*, *Serge a poil*, *Serge drapée*, or *Cloth Serge*, *Serge* both *Sides* alike, and *Serge de Berry*, *de Beauvais*, *de Mouy*, *de St. Lo*, *d'Aumale*, *de Crevecœur*, *de Blicour*, *de Chartres*, &c. *Facon de Londres*, *d'Arscot*, *de Rome*, *de Segovie*. All of these which are made in *France*, are subject to certain *Rules*, by divers *Arrets*, according to the *Places* where they are made.

Serges facon
de Londres.

15. *France* owes the *Manufacture* of *Serge*, after the *Fashion* of *London*, to *Lewis Bezuel* and *Nicholas de la Coudre*, *Partners*. These two able *Manufacturers* begun the *Fabric* at *Aumale*, a little *City* in *Normandy*, in consequence of a *Patent* exclusive, for 15 *Years*, of the 12th of *September* 1665, granted upon the *Report* of *Mr. Colbert*. It has since been transferred to *Seignelay*, *Gournay*, *Auxerre*, *Sedan*, *Abbeville*, *Beauvais*, *Boufflers*, &c. That of *Seignelay* has always preserved the *Preference*, either because they make use of better *Wool*, or are better *Workmen*, or because the *Earth* and *Water* are more proper.

^a See Chap.
153. §. 6.
Note.

16. As to the *Manner* of making the *Serges facon de Londres*. The best *Wool* for the purpose, is that of *England*, viz. the longest for the *Warp*, and the shortest for the *Woof*. But as it is not easy to procure those *Sorts* of *Wool*, because they are prohibited ^a, they have *Recourse*, for the *Warp*, to the longest and finest *Wool* of *Berry*; and for the *Woof*, to the *Prime* and *Second* of *Spain* and *Portugal* *.

Page 743.
Perpetuanas.

17. *Perpetuanas*, a *Stuff* like the *Serges* of *Sommiere*, are commonly made at *Colchester* and *Exeter*, and other *Places* thereabouts. These *Perpetuanas*

* However true it may be, that some long *Wools* of *England* are better than those of the *Province* of *Berry*, in *France*: Certain it is, that the *English* short *Wools* are, for the most *Part*, either not so good as the *Prime* and *Second* of *Spain* and *Portugal*, or else they are very much underfold in the *English* *Markets*. (See Chap. 171. N^o. 6. Chap. 172.)

are chiefly destined to *Spain* and *Italy*; but most to *Spain*, where there is a great Demand for them. Of late Years they make some in Imitation of the *English* Perpetuanas, at *Montpelier*, *Nismes*, *Castres*, and other Cities of *Low Languedoc*. Some are also made at *Beauvais*, which are much esteemed at *Cadix*, where the *French* Merchants send them, dyed of different Colours. The Merchants of *Languedoc* send a Quantity of them into *Italy* under the Name of Imperial Serge, that are a little finer than those designed for *Spain*. Call them by what Name you will, they are but Serge, like to that of *Sommier*. The *Perpetuanas* designed for the *Spanish West Indies* are commonly sent in Assortments of forty Pieces, viz. fifteen, green Paroquet; fifteen Pieces, blue; five, musc Colour; five, black. There is one Species of *Perpetuanas*, less fine, which is mostly made in *England*; whence it is sent into *Spain*, chiefly for the *Indies*, commonly to the Value of 200,000 Livres a Year.

18. *Saye* is a Kind of Serge, very light, all of Wool, something like the 704. *Sayes*. Serge of *Caen*. Some of the Religious use them for Shirts; others, for Linings and Hangings in Furniture. They make Abundance of them at *Honfrotte*, *Ipres*, and *Turcoing* in *Flanders*. Those of *Honfrotte* and *Ipres* are about Ell-wide. Those of *Turcoing*, which are very fine, and all of Wool only of *Segovie*, or *England*, are $\frac{1}{4}$ wide. There are also some made in *Artois* with the Wool of the Country.

19. *Bayes*, a Woolen Stuff, not *Croissée*, very loose made, with the Hair Tome I. 368. on one Side, a Kind of Flannel, very coarse. A Quantity of these are *Bayes*. made at * *Gloucester*. They make a considerable Number of them in *Flanders*, especially at *Tournay* and *Lisle*, and *Neuf Eglises*. Of late Years, the *French* have manufactured some with Success; especially at *Beauvais*, *de Castres*, *Montpelier*, and *Nismes*. The Demand for them is very great in *Spain* and *Portugal* and *Italy*. The *French* begin to send many of them, white, black, and of all other Colours, as did the *English* and *Flemings* heretofore. A Kind of Stuff of the same Name, but cheaper, is also made at *Alba*, and thereabouts. The *Bayes* of the Kingdom pay Duty, 3 Livres, the 100 Weight. Those of *England* pay 20 Livres for a Piece of 25 Ells, and for *Doubles*, of 50 Ells, 60 Livres, by an Arret of 1687. Those of *Flanders* pay but four Livres, for 20 Ells, by the Tariff of 1664.

* *Gloucester*, I suppose, Mr. Savary meant.

Tom. 3. p. 594. *Flannel.* 20. *Reveches, Flannel.* Formerly, almost all these that were seen in France, did come from England. But since they have been imitated at Beauvais and Amiens, the English have sent few or none.

Tom. 1. p. 1195. *Crape.* 21. *Crape*, made only with two *Marches*, all of Wool. There are *Crapes* made in different Places, as well in France as elsewhere. Their Length and Breadth are different, according to the Places where they are made. Those of Zurich in Switzerland are the strongest of all; for which formerly there was a great Demand in France. They come mostly by *Lions* from Zurich. They were formerly made at But this Manufacture there is lost. *Sieur Paignon*, a Merchant Draper of Paris, first set up this Manufacture about the Year 1687. His Son *Nicolas Paignon* has since been more successful in his Undertakings; and to him we owe the fine black Cloths of Sedan, that are as much esteemed, if not more than those of Leyden in Holland. At Amiens are made white *Crapes*, with a Mixture of Thread. In Languedoc, particularly at Castres, certain slight *Crapes*. In Flanders, and above all at Turcoing and Lisle, a Quantity of light *Crapes* are made, and of different Colours, for the Spanish Trade. There are *Crapes* which they call *d'Angleterre*, made of Silk and Wool, chiefly at Alencon, Angers, and Amiens.

Tom. 2. p. 319. *Stuffs Woolen.* 22. *Woolen Stuffs* are so called, that are narrow, light, of small Price; such are the Cadis of Sevens and of Gevaudan. The Tammies of Auvergne, the Cambletins of Flanders, half Ell-wide, Paris Measure.

C H A P. CLVII.

Tome 1.
Part 2.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.
Of the Commerce of France.

Commerce of Paris, p. 15, 19. 1. *Blankets*, of Wool, are made in the Suburbs of St. Martin (Paris.)

There is at Ferte Gaucher a little Manufactory of *Serge*. There is a Tradition of an ancient Manufactory of Cloth, the Workmen wherein first taught the English their Art. At present, there is no Manufactory in that District. At Nangis their Trade in Wool, &c. is considerable.

2. *Compiègne* furnishes a Quantity of *Stockins*, &c. The Cloths, Camblets and Plushes, that are made at Margny, a Village in that District, are esteem'd. These

These Manufacturies are not very ancient, but are well conducted. The Cloths of *Sentis* formerly were in great Repute. But the Workmen having made them slighter, the Business is lost ; and the Inhabitants are reduced to wash and prepare the Wool for the Workmen at *Beauvais*.

3. *Picardie* produces Wool. They have Manufacturies of Wool, &c. *Picardie, p. 32.* Besides five or six hundred *Milliers* of Wool produced there, the Consumption there is almost as great of other Wool, from *Germany, Holland, England, Spain*, and other Provinces of *France*. In the City of *Amiens* only, are made 129800 Pieces of *Woolen STUFF*. The *Camblet*-makers use about 80 *Milliers*, half thereof Wool of the Country *, half foreign Wool. Besides these, there are sealed there 50,000 Pieces, brought from neighbouring Parts, which for that Reason are called *Etoffes foreines*. The Cities of *Picardie*, which have the greatest Trade for *Woolen Manufacture*, next to *Amiens*, are *Beauvais* and *Abbeville*.

4. In the *Serge Manufactures* at *Amiens*, they make *Serges* after the Page 33. Fashion of *Arcot, Creveœur, Serge Cordelieres*, of many Sorts. *Serges* after the Fashion of *Chalons*, white, and mixt ; *Serges de Seigneur, Quinquettes* or slight *Camblets* ; *Camblets* after the Fashion of *Lisle* and *Arras* ; *Baracans* and *Tammies*, of Wool only, others of Wool and Silk, &c.

5. The *Woolen Stuffs* made at *Beauvais*, are *Ratines* of different Sorts, as wide, strong, fine, and common : *Tammies* ; *Serge* both Sides alike, or after the Fashion of *England*, or *Arcot* ; or those that go under the Name of common *Serge* ; *Bayes*, others after the Fashion of *England* ; in a Word, *Flannels*.

6. The *Manufactures* of *Abbeville*, not to mention the fine Cloths made after the Fashion of *Spain, England* and *Holland*, whereof Mention has been made elsewhere, are *Serge de Londres, Razes de St. Lo, Ratines* of *Holland, Serge de Mouy, Bouracans* after the Fashion of *Valenciennes* ; *Druggets, Thread and Wool, Tiretaines, Belingues, Pinchinas*, &c.

7. The other Places in *Picardie*, where *Woolen Stuffs* are made, are *Tilloy, Fienville, Naours, Beauchamps, Gravilliers, Feuquiers, Aumale, Anvoille, Glatigny, and Seules*. In all these Places are made only *Serges* and *Tiretaines*. *Mouy* gives its Name to a *Serge* that is well esteemed ; and *Creve-*

* By Wool of the Country, here, and in most Places hereafter, (in the *Dictionnaire Universel*) is to be understood the Wool of the particular Province under Consideration, as distinguished from the Wool of other Provinces in *France*, as well as from Wools entirely foreign.

cœur, to others that are not less esteemed. *Tricot*, and eleven Villages dependant upon it, give also its Name to a very strong Serge.

8. The best spun Wool of *Picardie* is at *Abbeville*, where vast Numbers are employed in spinning, and a great Quantity of the finest Wool is consumed, as well of the Growth of the Country, as *Spanish* Wool. These last are chiefly used for making the finest Caps, the other, in the Manufacture of Cloth and other Goods, of the Make of *Paris*, *Elbeuf*, and *Rouen*. The *Dutch*, in the Time of Peace, take off a great Quantity of it*.

Page 35,

9. We must remark, that at *Amiens* they employ only Wool of their Country, *England*, *Holland*, and *Germany*; but especially that of the Country and *England*. It is computed that the Woolen Manufacture of *Amiens* amounts to near 1,600,000 Livres yearly. The principal Manufactory of *Abbeville* is that of *Monsieur Vanrobais*.

10. In general, the Stuffs made at *Beauvais* are wide Ratines of five Quarters, fine Ditto Ell wide, strong Ratines also Ell wide; the *Warp*, Wool of *France*; the *Woof*, of the middle Sort of *Spanish* Wool. Common Ratines, *Estamet de bures*, Serge both Sides alike, of Wool of *France*; Serge a *Poil*, Ell wide, the *Warp*, *French*, the *Woof*, *Spanish* Wool. Fine Serge, of † *English* Wool, $\frac{2}{3}$ wide; after the Fashion of *Tricot*, of the best Wool of *France*, $\frac{2}{3}$ wide; *Espagnolets* $\frac{2}{3}$ wide, the *Warp*, fine *French*, the *Woof*, *Spanish* Wool; *Sommieres*, half Ell, and half Ell half quarter, of FINE *French* Wool; *Reveches*, after the Fashion of *England*, $\frac{1}{4}$ wide, of *French* Wool; Flannels, after the Fashion of *England*, Ell $\frac{1}{4}$ wide; others, half the Breadth, all of *French* Wool; common Serge, half Ell half Quarter, of Wool of the Country. In fine, common *Reveches*, of different Breadths, of the same Wool as before. The Masters that make the finest STUFFS, and are therefore stiled the *Great Company*, are about seventy. Those of the *lesser Company*, i. e. who work but common Stuffs, are above a hundred. About 500 Looms are employed in both together. It is com-

* *Viz.* Yarn of Worsted, to the Value of 1,500,000 Florins yearly, as we are informed by very good Authors: Hence therefore judge, how far it is good Policy for *Great Britain* to prohibit absolutely (as it does, and for many Generations has done,) the Exportation of Woolen Yarn; whether it has not more in it of the *Monopolist*, than of the truly wise or publick spirited Legislator.

† Here is another Testimony against that vulgar Opinion, of the *French* making vast Advantages of *English* Wool, by mixing it with their own; for was that Opinion in any Degree true, we should not find them converting any *English* Wool into Serge without a Mixture of other Wools; by doing which, they could have only the single Benefit of their own Labour.

puted that the great Company employs in their Fabric 115,000 Pounds of *Spanish Wool*, 2000 Pounds of *English Wool*, 160,000 Pounds of *French Wool*; the lesser Company consumes 185,000 Pounds of the common *Wool of France*; the Product of which is a third Part less than of the others. In the whole Department of *Beavais*, are employed to the Amount of 745,000 Pounds of *French Wool*, and 115,000 Pounds of *Spanish Wool*; of which they make 68,000 Pieces of STUFF. They have about 40 Ful-ling-Mills. Page 42.

11. Wool grown in the Province of *Picardie*, viz. at *Amiens* and thereabouts, 80 Milliers; at *Abbeville* 2, *St. Quintin* 100, *Peronne* 40, *Nesle* 40, neighbouring Villages 2, *Ham* 40, *la Ferte* 20, *Guise* 30, *Vervine* 60, *Laon* 30, *Vely pres de Laon* 40, *Chauny* 20, *Noyon* 20. Total 524 Milliers.

C H A P. CLVIII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of the Generality of Champagne and Soissons.

1. **T**H E Pasturage is admirable, maintaining 16 or 17,000,000 Sheep, which afford three or four Millions of Pounds of Wool. *Champagne and Soissons.*
Page 46.
2. It is almost incredible how MUCH of Woollen Manufacture there is in these two Provinces. At *Rheims*, they make Cloth after the Fashion of *Berry*, *Etamines*, *Razes*, *Cordeliers*, *Serges*, &c. At *Rhetel*, the same as at *Rheims*, besides *Estamets* and *Crapes*. Page 48.
Rheims.
Page 49.
3. At *Chateau-Portien*, at *Mezieres*, *Donchery*, *Mouzon*, *Fismes*, *Sainte Manebould*, *Sommepey*, *Ville en Tartanois*, *Soissons*, *Chateau-Thierry*, *Charly*, *Orbaye*, *S. Martin Dublois*, *Bar-Sur-Aube*, *Ferre en Tartanois*, *Neuilly*, and *S. Fond*, they make only *Serges* and *Etamines* and *Deseverfins*. At *Sedan*, they make a Quantity of Cloth, VERY FINE and VERY GOOD, also a great Number of Cloth *Serges*, and *Serges* after the Fashion of *London*. At *Bouts*, *Pertes*, and *Joinville*, Villages near *Rheims*, they make only white *Etamines*, which they sell to *Rheims*. At *Moncornet*, *Ratines*, *Reveches*, Cloth *Serges* and *Estamets*. At *Vervins*, *Fontaine*, *Plumiere*, the like; also some common Cloths. At *Montmirel*, *Langres*, *S. Just*, *Anglure*, *Sezanne*, *la Ferte*, *Gouchier*,

Gouchier, and *la Ferte Sous-Jouars*, Cloth Ell wide, and above, to five Quarters, all of *Spanish Wool* only. In short, at *Brienne*, *Chalons*, *Vitry*, *Joinville*, *Chaumont*, *Dionville*, they make *Serge Razes*, *Serge* after the Fashion of *London*, *Cloth Serge*, *Estamets*, *Everfins*, *Etamines* after the Fashion of *Rheims*, and *Druggets*; besides, they make *Cloth* at *Chaumont*. The *Wool* employed in these several Manufacturies is partly foreign, partly *French*. The foreign is common *Spanish Wool*, as *de Castille*, and *les Segovianes*, and the like. The *French Wool* is *de l'Auxois*, *de Berry*, *de Champagne*, *du Soissonnois*, and *de Picardie*. They reckon 1400 Looms.

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4. At *Reibel*, they use the *Wool* of *Champagne*, *Picardie* and *Soissonnois*. The * Mixture which the Workmen make of common *Wool* with fine,

LOWERS considerably the PRICE and QUALITY of them.

Page 54.

5. The Cloths made at *Sedan*, are some, after the Fashion of *Holland*, some, after the Fashion of *England*, and others, after the Fashion of *Spain*. The *Wool* they make use of in the one and the other, are *Wool de Segovie*, *Segovianes*, *Albarazins*, *de Soris*, and other of the better Sorts.

6. The Fabrick of *Serges* is also very considerable at *Sedan*. The *Wool* they use, is that of *Berry*, *Ardennes*, *Champagnes*, *Brie*, and common *Spanish Wool*. They are sold in *Holland*, *Poland*, *Germany*, and within the Kingdom.

Page 56.

7. At *Donchery* is made wide *Serge*, *Cloth Serge*, *Serge de Londres*; the *Wool* is that of *Berry*, *Champagne*, and *Brie*. At *Mousson* and *Autrecott*, *Cloth Serges*, *Serge de Londres*, &c. they are all made of *Wool* of the Country. In the Manufactory of *St. Manebould* they use only *Wool* of the Country, with which they make *Serge* after the Fashion of *Chalons*, *Cloth Serges*, *Estamets* and *Frizes*. At *Siuppe*, or *Suippe*, the Manufactory is considerable. All the Stuffs are made of *Wool* of the Country, *i. e.* *Everfins*; *Cloth Serge*, *Serge Razes* and *Frizes*. At *Ville en Tartanois*, wide *Serges*, *Cloth Serges*, all of *Wool* of the Country. *Routz*, *Perthes*, and *Sunville*, are three Villages near *Rheims*, where they make only white *Etamines*, of the *Wool* of the Country. At *Montcomet*, are made *Serges*, *Ratines*, *Estamets*, *Reveches*, *Cloth Serges*, on which they employ only the *Wool* of the Country. *Vervins*, *Fontaine*, and *Plumieres*, afford common Cloths and *Serges*, of the *Wool* of the Country. At *Neville S. Front*, are employed

Page 57.

* Is not this a decisive Testimony against that Nonsense, which has been so often and confidently repeated, of the great Advantages to be made, by mixing finer *English* and *Irish* with very much coarser *French Wools*?

the Wool of *Brie*, *Champagne*, and *Soissons*, in making *Serges de Berry*, and Cloth Serge $\frac{1}{2}$ wide. At *Perre en Tartanois*, the Manufacture is wide Serge, Cloth Serge, and Serge after the Fashion of *Mouy*, the Wool, of the Coun-
try only. At *Charly*, they make wide Serges, Cloth Serges, &c. all of
Wool of the Country. Page 59.

8. These above, are in the Département of *Rheims*, (those that follow, are in the Department of *Troyes* and *Chalons*) where they make near 84,000 Pieces of Stuff, employing for that Purpose 740,000 lb Weight of Wool of *Champagne*, *Brie*, *Soissonnois*, and *Bourgogne*, besides above 530,000 Pounds of *Spanish* Wool, and above 50,000 Pounds of that of *Berry*. They keep there 14 or 1500,000 Sheep, which produce three Millions seven or eight hundred thousand Pounds of Wool.

9. At *Chalons* they make a Quantity of Serge Razes, Serge after the Fa-
shion of *London*, *Estamets*, *Everfines*, Cloth Serges, after the Fashion of
Rheims. Of these last, they make about 2500 Pieces a Year ; of all the
others, about 2000. The Wools they make use of, for the one and the
other, are some of *Champagne*, *Brie*, *Soissonnois*, and *Bourgogne*, and some
Spanish Wool. There are 325 Master Clothiers. Besides, there are 30 or
35 other Looms for a Manufactury, that some Cloth Merchants of *Paris*
have got established by Letters Patents. They make also in that Manufac-
tury, Serge after the Fashion of *London*, *Ratines*, *Pinchinas* ; and employ in
the one and the other, according to their Quality, Wool, prime *Segovie*, fine
Albarasin, and other *Spanish* Wool, with that of *Berry*, *l'Auxois*, *Champagne*,
and *Brie*. The Product of this Manufactury is in Proportion as great as the
others. They sell them throughout the Kingdom, at *Liege*, and in *Italy*.
Liege takes off a great Number, they being well liked there. At *Vitry*, are
made Serge Razes, Serge after the Fashion of *London*, Cloth Serges, Drug-
gets, and *Estamets*. The Wool they employ, are those of *Champagne*, *Brie*,
and *l'Auxois*. At *CHAUMONT*, are made a Quantity of Cloths, Serge *Croisée*,
Druggets ; of the last, one is of Wool only, the other of Wool and Thread.
They use only the Wool of the Country. Troyes and
Chalons.
Page 60.

C H A P. CLIX.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce,
Of the Trade for Spanish Wool, at Bayonne,

Page 100.

1. **I**T is to be observed, that the Wools which the Merchants of *Bayonne* have from *Spain*, have some of them different Names from those given in the Dictionary, under the Article of Wools ; but in Truth they are the same, under different Appellations.

2. It is computed, that the Import of Wool at *Bayonne* amounts to 15,000 Bales, of all Qualities, viz. *Segovies*, *Leoneses* Superfines, common *Segovies*, *Sories*, *Segoviennes*, *Burguletes*, *Sories de Caballeros*, *Sories Molines*, grand *Albarazines*, *des Cuencas*, *des Etremenas*, *Belchittes*, *Campos d'Arragon*, *Fleuretons de Navarre*, and all Sorts of Lambs Wool, fine and common, *surge*, and washed.

3. Many of the Merchants of *Bayonne* give Orders to have Part of the Wools bought *en surge*, and to have them washed upon the Spot, on their own Account. Others have them from the *Spaniards* who are Flock-Masters, or from the Merchants of that Nation who trade in it, and every Year send or carry them to *Bayonne*, all washed, and sell them there themselves. So that the People of *Bayonne* have always their Wools at the first Hand, and can afford them cheaper than others. Besides, the best Conveniences for washing are nearer that City than any other, even nearer than to *Bilboa*. The Wool that comes from *Bayonne* is most profitable and best *triaged* of all that come from *Spain*. The Weight they make use of at *Bayonne*, is sixteen Ounces to the Pound.

Page 101.

4. The Price of Wool is different, according to the Difference of Exchange. We shall set it here upon the Foot of the Price they sold at in *November 1724* ; when the Pistole was at 16 Livres. Upon that Foot, the *Segovies Leonises* (R.) * were worth 52 Sols the Pound ; (F.) 6 Sols less ; the common *Segovies*, 48 Sols ; the *Segoviennes*, 46 Sols ; *Sories Segoviennes*, *les Burgales*, *les Cavalleros*, 44—45 ; *les Sories*, 41—42, with the same Diminution of six and 12 Sols ; for the (F.) and (S.) other Wools, in Proportion to their Quality.

* Chap. 151.
§. 1, 2.

* These three Letters of the Alphabet, R, F, S, are used to distinguish the three Sorts, into which every Parcel of *Spanish* Wool is divided by sorting, and therefore called *Triage*.

5. They

5. They load commonly at *Bayonne*, every Year 30 or 40 Vessels, which carry 200 or 350 Bales of fine Wool to *Roan* and *Nantz*, and 8 or 10 Vessels to *Holland*: *Languedoc* also takes off much Wool of *Sories Segoviennes*, and common *Sories*, that are the most proper for *Londrins Seconds*; which are the best for the *Levant Trade*.

C H A P. CLX.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Page 108.

Of the Commerce of Limosin, Poitou, &c.

1. **A**T *St. Jean de Angelis*, they make Cloths Ell-wide, and Etamines: *Commerce of Limosin.*
 At *Nerac*, commonly 1900 Pieces of Cloth, and 1250 Serges: At *Angouleme*, Serges and Etamines: *La Rouche Foucalt*, only Serge: *Limoge*, Reveches: *Tulle*, Reveches or petits Raz: *Brieve*, Reveches: *St. Leonard*, strong and coarse Cloths, for Soldiers and Peasants.

2. The STUFFS made at *Poitiers* are Camblets, Etamines, Serges and *Of Poitou.*
 Crapes. At *Chastelleraud*, they make Serges and Etamines, in which they *Page 112.*
 employ but Wool of the Country. At *Lusignan*, they make two Sorts of Serges, Razes and Cloth Serge, both of Wool of the Country. At *St. Maixent*, they make Serge Razes, which are esteemed for their FINENESS, although they use but the WOOL OF THE COUNTRY; for which they chuse the finest; and of the rest make Reveches, and other coarse Goods. They make abundance of double Caps and Stockins with Wool of the Country, and of *Limoges*. The Serge made at *La Motte St. Geraye*, for *Page 114.*
 Quality, Fineness, and the Wool employed there, are the same as at *Maxient*.

3. At *Niort*, they employ but the Wools of the Country; the several Sorts of Stuff there made, are Druggets, of Wool only; others, of Wool and Thread; Serge Razes, Etamines buretes, and coarse Cloth Serges. At *Fontenay le Comte*, they make Cloth Yard wide, and Etamines, both of Wool of the Country. At *La Chateigneraye*, are made Cadises, Sergettes, and Cloth Serge; this, with the Wool of the Country, the others, with *Fleuretons de Navarre*. At *Cbeuffois*. the same as the former. At *La Meil-*

lerage, they make only Tiretaines and narrow Druggets. At Pouzanes, the same. At St. Memin, the same.

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^p The Refuse
or worst
Wools of
France
not useless.

4. At BRESVIRE, is one of the most considerable Manufacturies in the Department of the Inspector of *Poitiers*. The Stuffs made there, are Tiretaines, of Thread and Wool, Serge Razes, and Cloth Serges, all of Wool of the Country only. At *Moncontan*, the Stuffs are Tiretaines of different Fashions, of the ^p Refuse of Wool, from *Niort*, *Bourdeaux*, *Xaintes*, and *Sensa*. At *Saint Pierre* the Stuffs are Cadises, Druggets, of *Fleureton de Navarre*, and Cloth Serges, Ell wide, of the Wool of the Country. At *Thouan*, Cloth Serge, Serge Razes, and some Etamines. The Druggets made at *Partenay* are much esteemed, and have a great Vent; some are of Wool only; others, of Thread and Wool. These last are made of Wool of the Country; the first, only of *Spanish* Wool. At *Azais* are made Druggets, some called *Imperial*, others, common; the last, of Wool only, or Wool and Thread; the first, of Wool and Silk; to make the *Imperial*, they employ only the Wool of *Campo*; for the common, Wool of the Country. At *Vivoufne* are made coarse Serge, and some Serge Razes. At *Chateau Larcher*, the same, and some Reveches of a low Price. *Mesle*, Serge Razes, of the Wool of the Country. *Cuiray*, coarse Serges. *Gencay*, some Serges, some Reveches; both of Wool of the Country. *Cculognes*, Druggets, all of Wool.

Page 116.

5. They grow in the Generality of *Poitiers*, about 250 Milliers of Wool, which they employ in the above-mentioned Fabrics, and of Stockins and Hats. They consume besides, a great Quantity of *Spanish* Wool, called *Wool de Campo*, and *Fleuretons de Navarre*; which they have by the way of *Rockelle* and de *Nantz*, to the Amount of 2000 Bales; every Bale weighing 300 lb. They make in that Generality, from 25 to 30,000 Pieces of STUFF, every Year.

C H A P. CLXI.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of the Generality of Orleans.

1. **T**HEY make Caps of *Spanish Wool*, *Wool of Berry*, and of the *Orleannois* Country, besides Stockins. Their Manufacturies in Cloth and Page 156. other Woolen Stuffs, employ not only the *Wool of the Country*, but also a good Quantity of the *Wool of Berry*, *Beasse*, *Brie*, and *Soulogne*. The principal Manufacturies of Cloth, are those of *St. Genoux*, *Clamecy*, *Chatillon sur Loing*, and *Montagris*. There are many more, of *Serges* and other *Woolens*, viz. at *Orleans*, *Serge tremieres*, *Serges with two Estains*, *Frocks*, and *Baguettes*. At *Baugency* the same, and moreover *Cloth Serge*. At *Blois*, as at *Baugency*; also *Crapes*. At *Vendôme*, and at *Pierre Fitte*, *Estamets*, and *Serges of several Sorts*. White *Serges* called *Tourangelles*, and white *Cloth Serges*, are made at *Montoir*, *Salbry*, *Souesme*, *Nouan le Fuzilier*, *Vouzon*, *Jergeau*, *Chatres*, *Saint Fargean*, and *Brou*.

2. There is at *St. Aignan* a Fabric of *Cordats*, or *Cloth for the Capuchins*. The Manufacture at *Chateaufnef* and *Brinont*, are *Cloth Serges*, *Baguettes*, and *Tiretaines*: At *Gien*, *Cloth tremieres*, white and grey, white *Frisons* and *Etamines*. At *Charite* and *Pentbieres*, *Cloth Serge*, and those called *Felins*. At *Pongoin*, *Chaudan*, *Razoches*, and *Illiers*, only *Serge of two Estains*. At *Antboin*, different Sorts of grey and white *Etamines*, of *Wool of the Country*, *Etamines*, of *Spanish Wool*, called *Langres*; *Etamines*, musc Colour, of *Wool of the Country*; and other *Etamines*, whereof the Warp is of the *Wool of Maine*; whence they have it ready spun, and the Woof, of *Spanish Wool*, or fine *Wool of Berry*.

3. *Romorantin* is the most considerable Manufactury of the whole Gene- Page 161. rality; they make above 5500 Pieces every Year, viz. white Cloths five Quarters wide, other Cloths less wide, of the same Colour, white *Serge*, white grey, and grey, and *Serge croissée*, partly of the *Wool of Berry*, partly of the Country. They have also settled there a Fabric of white Cloths, half of *Spanish Wool*, half of fine *Wool of Berry*; which Cloths are fit to be dyed *Scarlet*. The Manufacturers of *Romorantin* having been used to employ the *Wool of Navarre* and *Barbary*; they are

are forbid to do it, by an Arret of Council, *April 1706*, and again by the Intendant of the Generality, *July 1716*.

4. They consume in this Generality 200 Milliers of Wool, for the most Part of the Country. They make 25,000 Pieces of Cloth, &c. Foreign Pieces, to the Amount of 14,000, are brought from neighbouring Places, and marked there.

C H A P. CLXII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of Touraine, Anjou, Maine, and Perche.

Page 166.
Touraine.

1. **T**HE Commerce at *Amboise*, for Etamines and Druggets made there, is much esteemed, and a good many Hands are there employed in them. In *Touraine*, they make little else but Etamines, Serges, Razes, and Druggets. The principal Places where they are made, are; *Chinon*, *Richelieu*, *London*, *Loches*, *Beauchieu*, *St. Christophe*, *St. Pater*, and *Laval*, for Etamines and Serges. At *Beaumont*, *la Roue*, and *Roziers*, besides these two Sorts of Stuffs, they make also Razes and Serge tremieres, and at *Montresor*, *Villeloin*, and *Orbigny*, only Serge half Ell, of Wool of the Country.

2. The Druggets and Tiretaines of *Amboise*, are partly, Wool of *Touraine*, partly, Wool of *Berry*. At *Beugnay*, they use Wool of *Beaussie*, instead of that of *Berry*. At *Chateau*, *Renault*, *Neurville*, *Pontpierre*, *Maray*, *Neufay*, and *Loisant*, the Razes, Serge tremieres, Etamines, and Druggets, are made of the same Wool as at *Beugnay*. In the Fabrics of *Montrichard*, which consists only of Druggets and white Serge, they employ but Wool of the Country.

Anjou.
Page 170.

3. At *Angers*, they make Etamines of different Prices, and Serge tremieres, both, of the Wool of the Country. At *Chateau Gontiers*, Etamines and Druggets after the Fashion of *Lude*, Serge croisées. At *la Fleche*, Etamines, Serges, Druggets, of the Wool of the Country. At *Montreuil*, *Bellay* the same. At *Beaufort* and *Durtal*, Serges, Etamines, Druggets, all of Wool of the Country.

Du Maine.
Page 171.

4. They make Etamines and Serge tremieres at *Mayette*, *Chateau de Loir Ferte*, *Bernard*, *Beaumont le Vicomte*, *Mayenne*, and *Laval*.

5. At

5. At *Le Mans*, are made double Etamines and Camlets, which are commonly dyed black, three Parts of Wool of the Country, the rest of *Poitou*. At *Manjette*, strong Serge tremieres. *Chateau de Loir*, Serge tremieres, all of Wool of the Country. *Ferte Bernard*, all of Wool, others of Wool and Silk, and Druggets, Thread and Wool of the Country. Province.
du Maine.
Page 172.

6. At *Bonnefable*, the Fabric is considerable; they make Etamines like those of *Mans*, except that they are all of the Wool of the Country, and that in the others, a third is Wool of *Poitou*. At *Beaumont le Vicomte*, they make much the same as at *Bonnefable*. At *Mayenne* Serges tremieres and Druggets with Thread. At *La Vall*, Etamines, Serge tremieres, and Druggets of Thread and Wool of the Country.

7. In the whole Generality of *Tours*, viz. the Provinces of *Touraine*, *Angou*, and *Maine*, are made about 18,000 Pieces of STUFF, and above 11,000 foreign Pieces are marked there. The Wool they employ in those Fabrics, are almost all of the Wool of the Country; which is commonly sold for 60 to * 75 Livres the Quintal.

8. At *Nogent*, are made Etamines.

Perche
Page 173.

C H A P. CLXIII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of the Generality of Berry.

1. SHEEP and WOOL are the chief Commodities of this District. Berry.
Page 174.
The Wool is GOOD ENOUGH; but they employ only the worst themselves; the best and finest being bought up by the Merchants of *Roan*; which is the Reason why the Manufacturers of *Berry* make only coarse Cloth, called Cloth of *Berry*; they are excellent in their Kind, but only fit for Soldiers, Servants, and common People. The other Stuffs of Wool of *Berry*, are coarse Serge, Druggets, Tiretaines and Pinchinas.

2. *Bourges*, *Iffouden*, *Chateroux*, *Vierfon*, *Selles*, *Aubigny* and *Remorantin*.

* This is the only Place, in the *Dictionnaire Universel*, where I find any Mention made of the Price of French Wool. And here we see that of one of the lower Sorts, the Medium Price was 67 Livres and a half for 100 lb; which is 7 d. per Pound, i. e. 16s. 4 d. per Todd, English Money. This, at the Time when this Book was committed to the Press, and for several Years before, was something more than the very best long Wool in England sold for; which I take to be one Evidence, amongst many, that the Price of English Wool, in England, has long been depressed considerably below its natural Value. 1741-2

are the Places where the best Manufacturies are settled, among which that of Romorantin is most esteemed. (See Chap. 161. §. 3.)

3. The other Places of Manufacture, of Wool of Berry, are, le Blanc, S. Amant, la Chastres, Chastillon, Meun, Aubigni, Dun-le-Roi, S. Benoist-du Sault, Buzancois, Leuroux, Saint-Savin, Sancerre, Linieres, Leret, La Chapelle danguillon, Aisne-le-Chateau, Saint-Gautier, Ivry-le-Pre, Argenton, Newvy-Saint-Sepulchre, Argent, Valencay, Cinconet, Baugy, Sancergues, Les Aix, Blancfort, and Erichemont.

4. Besides what has been said above, of the Quantity of *fine Wool* which the Province of Berry furnishes for Roan, for the Fabric of Cloth in Normandy, the Merchants of that City (Roan) buy up others of the common Wools of Berry for their Manufacture of Tapestry. What remains, is used for making Caps of all Sorts, made in the Province, especially at Bourges.

Bourges,
&c.
Page 176.

5. In this Generality, of 34 Places, where Cloth and other Woolen Stuffs are made, there are seven, viz. Bourges, Issoudan, Chateau Roux, Romorantin, Verson, Selles, and Aubigny, where they commonly make from 3 to 4000 Pieces, each; six, viz. le Blanc, Sancerre, Chateaufort, Liniere, Ivry-le-Pre, Cencoins, where they make from 2 to 3000 Pieces; and 21 others, where they do not make above 8 or 900 Pieces, each.

Moulin,
&c.
Page 179.

6. The Stuffs at Moulins and thereabout, are Serges, Etamines and Crapes. At Montlucon, Herisson, Docize, the same. Cerey la Toure, partly Serges and partly Etamines. Moulins Engilbert, Cloths, and some other Stuffs. The Tapestry made in this Generality amounts to 80,000 Livres yearly.

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Auvergne.

7. In Auvergne, the Manufacture of Etamines, WORSTED CAMLETS, Burats, Cadise, Burailles, and other Woolen Manufacture, is very good.

C H A P CLXIV.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of Normandy, as divided into three Generalities, Rouen, Alencon and Caen.

Rouen.
Page 185.

1. **T**HE principal Commerce of the Generality of Rouen, consists of Cloth, Serges, Tapestry, wherein are employed 1200 Looms. In the

the GOOD MANUFACTURY, they use BUT *Spanish Wool*, or the best of *France*; those of *Normandy*, are for Stuffs of an inferior Kind. They import to *Roan*, *communibus annis*, 9000 Bales, of which 5000 are *Spanish*; the rest of the Kingdom.

2. The principal Fabric of the City of *Roan*, and which employed the greatest Number of Hands, was the Cloth of *Uffeau*, Ell wide; but now those after the Fashion of *Elbauf*, have taken their place. This last is good and improving daily; nevertheless it is not yet come up to the true Cloths of *Elbauf*. As to the Cloths of *Uffeau*, they keep them up yet; but make less of them, since those after the Fashion of *Elbauf*, have prevailed. A third Sort of Cloth made at *Roan*, are CLOTHS AFTER THE FASHION OF ENGLAND; but of this last, not so much as of the two former. Other Woolens made there, are, white Druggets, commonly called *Espagnolettes*; other Druggets of all Colours, half Ell wide, and white Ratines, five Quarters wide. They make also Baracans, Thread and Wool, $\frac{1}{4}$ wide, very coarse, and Berluches or Druggets of a better Sort. These two last Fabrics employ about 60 Looms, and the others, near 200.

Roan.
Page 186.

3. At *Darnetal*, the Woolen Manufactory is very ancient. Their first Statutes are in the Reign of *Henry III.* (1587.) The different Cloths there made are after the Fashion of *England* and *Holland*; Cloths after the Fashion of *Elbauf*, *Uffeau*, Druggets or *Pinchinats*. Their Manufacture of Blankets is the second Branch of the Trade of that Town and its Valley.

Page 188.

4. At *St. Aubin La Riviere*, the Manufactory commenced in 1691, in virtue of Letters Patents of 1672, under the Title of a *Royal Manufactory*. They make CLOTHS AFTER THE FASHION OF ENGLAND and HOLLAND, with SUCCESS ENOUGH.

5. The Manufactory of Cloth at *Elbauf*, is an ancient Establishment, and has always been in good Credit for the Sorts of Cloth undertaken there at different Times. Before the great Regulation of 1669, they made there, only white coarse Cloths. But all the Manufacturies of the Kingdom having received Encouragement from *Lewis XIV.* at the Instance of Mr. *Colbert*, those of *Elbauf* were the first that reaped the Fruits thereof, by two considerable Establishments for FINE CLOTHS AFTER THE FASHION OF ENGLAND AND HOLLAND, and by means of the Perfection to which they arrived in other Cloths.

6. At *Orival*, they make only Cloths after the Fashion of *Elbauf*. At *Louviers*, there are two Sorts of Cloth made; the one after the Fashion

Page 190.

of *England* and *Holland*; the other after the Fashion of *Elbæuf*. At *Pont de L'Arche*, the Cloth Manufactory is in great Reputation; it was established in 1690. The Drapery is after the Fashion of *England* and *Holland*. At *Gournay*, the Manufacture is Serge only, after the Fashion of *London*, well made. *Bolbec* is one of the most considerable Places in the County of *Caux* for manufacturing a Sort of Stuff called Frocs, which are esteemed the best of the Kind made in *Normandy*. They are of two Sorts; the one $\frac{2}{3}$ wide; the other, $\frac{1}{2}$ Ell $\frac{1}{8}$. They are both of pure Wool of the Country. *Gruchet*, the same as at *Bolbec*.

Page 191.

7. At *Fescampe*, the Manufacture is distinguished into old and new; the old are very strong Serges, Ell wide, and Frocs the same as at *Bolbec*; the new are fine Cloths after the Fashion of *England* and *Holland*; the first, all of Wool of the Country; the other, partly of foreign Wool, partly of the best Wool of the Kingdom. This Manufactory met with Difficulties in the Beginning, by the Fault of those entrusted with it by the Undertaker. But the Dexterity of three Strangers, who had afterwards the Management of it, hath carried it to such Perfection, that Cloth hath been produced there as fine, and in all Respects, as good as those of *England*.

8. There are a great Quantity of Frocs and Belinges made in several Villages of the Bailiwick of *Caux*, especially between *Fescampe* and *Dieppe*, but of an inferior Sort to those of *Bolbec*, either for the making or the Goodness of the Wool.

Caen.
Page 193.

9. Cloth and other Woolen Stuffs made at *Caen*, are Cloths after the Fashion of *England* and *Holland*, Ratines, Serges called Lingettes, Frocs and Reveches. The Cloths and Ratines of one Manufactory established by *Sieur Massieu*, about the End of the seventeenth Century, are only of Spanish Wool. The other Woolen Stuffs made here, employ near 700 Looms,

10. *Saint Lo* is in Reputation for the Manufacture of strong Serge, to which it has given its Name. They make also there, Finettes, and Razes, very much esteemed. These different Fabrics employ about 2000 Workmen, 90 Looms, &c. These STUFFS are excellent; especially if they employ only the Wool of *Cotantin*.

Chap. 151.
§. 7.
Page 194.

11. At *Vire*, are made common Cloths, Yard wide; also Serges Lingettes; also in many Villages thereabouts, especially at *Conde*, *Caligni*, *Monsegre*, *Cartemont*, *Cerisy*, and *Frènes*. These Manufacturies employ above 300 Looms; they make commonly 12,000 Pieces a Year. At *Valogne* is

is made strong Cloth, of Wool of the Country. At *Cherborough*, the same, but in greater Quantity.

12. *Coutance* is very fit for a Woolen Manufactory, having all proper Accommodations for that Purpose. The WOOLS grown there, are EXCELLENT: The Water good for dying, especially in Scarlet. There are Abundance of Teazles. They were once famous; but the War of the League having dispersed the chief Manufacturers into other Parts, they make only at present some petty Druggets, called Belinges, and other slight Stuffs, partly of Thread, and partly of the Wool of the Country. The rest of the Wool is sold to other Fabrics of the Province, especially at *Saint Lo*, where the ancient Manufacture of Serge of *Coutance* remains.

13. At *Bayeux* is made Cloth, Serges, and Ratines. They are good of their Kind. At *Fresne* and *St. Pierre D'Antremont*, they make partly Serge like that of *Caen*, partly slight Stuffs of Thread and Wool, all of Wool of the Country.

14. There is a great Quantity of Wool grown in the Generality of *Caen*; but of different Qualities, according to the Place. Those that grow about the City of *Caen* are worst. Those that grow from *Bayeux* as far as *Cherborough*, and all along the Coast, are the best. These last are employed at *St. Lo*, *Vire*, *Valogne*, *Cherborough*.

15. The Generality of *Alencon* is very considerable for the Manufacture of Cloth and other Drapery. They make there 50 or 52,000 Pieces, and mark besides, 16,000. Besides the Wool of the Country, they are supplied from neighbouring Provinces. *Alencon*. Page 197.

16. At *Alencon*, they make strong Serge $\frac{1}{2}$ wide, Etamines $\frac{1}{2}$ Ell, Crapes the same. At *Leez*, some slight Dapery, viz. Serges, Etamines. *Argentan*, the same. *Falais*, for the most Part, Serge *sur estain*, Ell wide; Serge *tremieres*, $\frac{1}{2}$, &c. *Lisieux*, a Quantity of Woolen Stuffs called Frocs. *Verneuil*, Serge *croisée*, all of Wool; Druggets, Thread and Wool. *Dreux*, Cloth, strong Serges, Serges after the Fashion of *London*, Estamets, and Demi-estamets; these last are called Linings, because they are employed to line Cloth. Page 198. Page 199. Page 200.

17. *Aumale* gives its Name to a Manufacture of Serge much esteemed; they reckon near 1200 Looms at work there, and round about. It is the only Fabric of the Kind in the Kingdom; they reckon the Commerce there, amounts to 2,000,000, when Wool is at a reasonable Price.

Page 202.

18. *Nogent Le Rotrou* is a Town of the Province of *Percbe*, but of the Department * of the Manufacturies of *Alencon*. The Stuffs there made, are of three Sorts; Etamines, of Wool; others, of Wool and Silk; Druggets, Thread and Wool; above 400 Looms are employed there. The Yarn made use of in the Etamines, comes for the most Part from *Mortagne*, to the Value for the most Part of 200,000 Livres *per Ann.*

19. At *Souence*, are made Etamines, some all of Wool, others of Wool and Silk. At *Ecouchay*, strong Serge, Ell wide, and Serge tremieres $\frac{1}{4}$. At *Laigle*, partly Serges, partly Etamines, and the like slight Stuffs.

20. At *Vitre*, Serges are made of Thread and coarse Wool of the Country, from 12 to 20 Sols the Ell. There are also Etamines, from 15 to 30 Sols *per Ell.*

Bretagne.
Page 280.

21. In *Bretagne*, are employed 800 Looms in making slight Stuffs of Wool, *viz.* Etamines, Druggets, Serges, Moletons, Crapes, and narrow Cloths, of the Wool of the Country. The principal Places are, *Nantes, Rennes, Bourg, Dinan, Saint Brieux, Lamballe, Chateau-briant, Norzay, Redon, Josselin, Le Guay de Pletant, Sainte Croix, Auvray, Vannes, Malestroit, Rochefort, Chateauneuf, Longonna, and Raviliac.*

C H A P. CLXV.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of Bourgogne, and the Generality.

Burgundy.
Page 223.

1. **A**S great Numbers of SHEEP are depastured in *Burgundy*, so Wool is a very considerable Commodity there. One Part whereof is employed by the Manufacturers of the Province, who are numerous; the other Part, which is not fit for their Use, is bought up by the Merchants of the neighbouring Provinces. In the Room of which, some is also bought from *Rheims* and *Troie*, more proper for certain Manufactures, *viz.* for Serge, AFTER THE FASHION OF LONDON and *Seignelay*, where they

* The Kingdom of *France*, where is any Woollen Manufacture, is cantoned into several Departments or Districts, called *Generalities*, with an *Inspector* to each, and *Superintendent General* of the whole. And thus we come by this more particular Account of the Woollen Manufacture in *France*, than of any other Kingdom besides.

mix

mix the Wool of *Troie* and *Rheims* with those of *Auxerrois*, which are the best in *Burgundy*. Their principal Manufactures are, Cloths of *Beaune*, *Vitauz*, *Semur*, *Saulies*, *Montbart*, *Rovray*, *Avalon*, *Auxerres*, *Nuitz*, *Pont le Vaux*, *Autun*, *Joigny*, *Sens*, *Villeneuve*, *l'Archeveque*, *Bigny*, and *Ancy la Franc*. The Manufactures of Serges of all Sorts, especially Cloth Serges, and SERGES AFTER THE FASHION OF LONDON, are not less considerable; they make them at *Dijon*, *Marcy*, *Auxerre*, in the Hospital, as well as in that of *Beaune*, at *Seignelay*, *Arnay le duc*, *Auxonne*, *Chatillon upon Seine*, and *Chassinelles*. Druggets, Tiretaines, Talanches, are made at *Semur*, *Montbart*, *Auxerre*, *Nuitz*, *Beaune*, *Loubans*, *Clugny*, *Mâcon*, and *Montluet*; also in some of those Cities, and especially at *Autun*, Crape called *Frater*, and *Freilles* three Quarters and half wide. The Business of Stockins, after the Fashion of *Havre* and *England*, is carried on at *Dijon*. Page 224.

C H A P. CLXVI.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the State of the Woolen Manufacture in Dauphiny and Provence.

1. **G R E N O B L E** is the chief Place of the Fabrics round about; *Dauphiny*. they make Cloth: At *Voiron*, and five Parishes, are made Druggets Page 237. and coarse Cloths: At *Turin*, and nine Parishes, Cloth only: *Saint Marcellin*, and four Parishes, Cloths only: At *Roybon*, and seven Parishes, Cloth, Ratines and Serge. At *Serre*, and eight Parishes, Cloths only: At *Beaurepaire*, Cloths, as also in three Parishes belonging to it: At *Saint Jean en Royans*, and six Parishes, STUFFS, and above 1000 Pieces of CLOTH. This Place is very commodious for a Manufactory, by Reason of its Water.

2. At *Romans*, and in 12 Parishes, the most considerable of the whole Province, (except *Dieu le Fit*) are made four Sorts of Drapery, viz. Cordelats, 2000 Pieces; Ratines, 1000; Estameux, 14 or 1500; Cloths, 15 or 1600. At *Pont en Royans*, and seventeen Parishes, are made Cloths only; at *Crest*, and thirteen Places, Ratines and Cordelats.

3. At

Provence.
Page 239.

3. At *Montelimart* is the greatest Manufactory ; they reckon up 25 Places where Ratines and Sergettes are made : *Tollinian*, and nine Parishes, make Sergettes : *Dieu de Fit*, and twenty Places, make Sergettes only : *Buis* and three Places, Sergettes and Cordelats : *Valence*, Cloth and Ratines : *Vienne* and seventeen Places, make Druggets.

4. The Wool of *Provence* is employed in different Manufactures, of Stuffs and Hats. Their Woolen Manufactory is, Cloth made all of *Spanish* Wool, and Caps of the Wool of the Country.

5. At *Toulon*, are made two Sorts of Pinchinats ; one, all of *Spanish* Wool ; the other, only of Wool of the Country. The Cadis and Cordelats are made of Wool of *Provence*, viz. in *Aix*, *Gordes*, *Apt*, *Ayquiers*, *Auriol*, *Signe*, *Colmars*, *Digne*, *la Roque*, *Meurvc*, *Soleres*, *Cuers*, *Pequant*, *Camoulles*, *Lue*, *Draguinan*, *Lorgues*. They make also in *Colmars* and *Digne*, and thereabouts, Cloths three Quarters and $\frac{1}{4}$ wide ; which are sold partly in the Kingdom, partly in *Savoy*.

6. In many Places of the Principality of *Orange*, they make Serge $\frac{1}{4}$ wide. At *Arles*, narrow Razes. At *Grignan*, Sergettes, all of Wool of the Country.

C H A P. CLXVII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of Languedoc,

Languedoc.
Page 264.

1. **T**HE Manufactures of Wool established in the two Generalities of *Languedoc*, are, Cloth, Cadis, Burats, Serges, Ratines, Cordelats, Bayes, Crape, Razes, Tiretaines, Druggets ; the greatest Part, for the *Levant*, as the Mahous and Londrins ; the others, for the *Swiss* and *Germans*, &c.

2. The Places where these are made are, *Rieux*, *Grange des pres*, *Lodeve*, *Carcaſſonne*, *Limoux*, *Castres*, *Alby*, *Alet*, *Sainte Colombe*, *Laucanet*, *Laiſſac*, *la Grace*, *Saptes*, *Chalabre*, *Mazanet*, *Ferrieres*, *Caune*, *Bedarrieux*, *St. Sivan*, *Quiffac*, *Sainte Hipolyte*, *Bauzely*, *Vigan*, *Ganges*, *Saumennes*, *Anduze*, *Alais*, *St. Gervais*, *Sommieres*, *Gardonnenque*, *Salle*, *Beziere*, *Aniane*, and *Beaucaire*.

3. The

3. The Wool employed in these Manufactures is partly of the Country; but the greatest Part is brought from *Marseilles* by the Merchants of *Montpelier*, who buy them unwashed, and after they have dressed them, sell them at the Fairs of *Pezenas* and *Montagnat*, to the Manufacturers.

4. At *Alby* in high *Languedoc*, are but two Sorts of Manufacture, *Cordelats*, and *Bayettes*; the former, of the Wool of the Country. At *Carcassonne*, the Cloths are made of Wool of *Bezier*, *Narbonne*, and *Spain*. At *Saptes*, the Manufacture of Cloth is very considerable; the Wool, *Spanish*, from the Merchants of *Toulon*, *Bayonne*, and *Marseille*. *Limoux* and *Alet*, the Cloths there made, are of the Wool of the Country, and of *Rouffillon*. *Saiffac*, a Manufacture of common Cloth. *La Grasse*, Cloths. *Montagne de Carcassonne*, Cloths of different Colours and Breadths. *Castres*, *Bayettes*, *Burats* and *Coronines*. *Maizant* and its Dependencies, *Cordelats* white, and musc. *Boiffeson*, *Cordelats*. *Varres*, *Serge*. *Ferrieres*, *Serge*. *Caune*, coarse Cloths. *Beddarieux*, two Sorts of Manufacture; one of *Druggets*, the other of Cloths. *Saint Ponts la Bastide*, white Cloths. *Saint Chinian*, white Cloths, from three Livres ten Sols, to four Livres ten Sols per Ell. Page 267.

5. The Manufacture of Cloth at *Lodeve*, is very considerable, and in great Esteem; they make 45,000 Pieces white, and grey. At *Montpelier*, Stuffs, Blankets, Hats, Fustians; the Blanket Manufacture is very considerable. At *Quissac*, is a considerable Manufacture of *Cadis*. *Sauve*, the same. *Saint Hipolyte*, *Cadis*, 75 Looms. *Bauzely*, ditto, 60 Looms. *Vigan*, Cloths and *Cadis*, a very considerable Manufacture. *Ganges*, some *Cadis*. *Alais*, *Serge*, *Cadis*, *Ratines*, 90 Looms. *Uzez*, *Serge*, 60 or 70 Looms. *Saint Gignaix*, *Cadis*, 40 Looms. *Sommieres*, Cloth *Serge*, *Ratines*, and *Cadis*. *Saint Jean de Gardonnenque*, *Cadis*. *La Salle*, *Cadis*, 30 Looms. *Nismes*, a considerable Manufacture of Cloth and Stockins. *Narbonne*, knit Stockins. Page 269. Page 270.

6. At *Beziers*, are different Manufactures of Wool, especially of fine Cloth and *Druggets*, like those of *Bedarieux*, sold chiefly to *Germany*. The *Royal Manufactory*, of fine Cloth, established at *Clermont*, is very considerable. There are also private Manufacturies there. The Manufacture of Hats there, is also the most considerable in *Languedoc*. *Aniane* has a Manufacture of *Cadis*. *Beaucaire*, of *Cadis* and Stockins, and Hats. *Saint Andre de Val Borgne*, *Cadis* and Hats. *Marvaix*, *Cadis* and Hats. Page 271.

7. The *Sieur de Varennes*, having brought Workmen from *Holland*, undertook to make Cloths for the *Levant Trade*. *Saptes*, near *Carcassonne*, *Royal Manufactory of Languedoc*, was p. 272.

was the Place where he first established it, and we may consider it as the Model and the Mother of all the others in the Province of *Languedoc*. That of *Clermont* and *Lodeve* followed soon after, viz. in 1678. The States of *Languedoc* lent them 130,000 Livres for many Years, without Interest, and gave them besides, by way of Bounty, a Pistole for every Piece of fine Cloth made there.

8. The third Manufactory, is that of *Carcassonne*, established and maintained by the *Sieur Castenier*, which has not succeeded less than that of *Saptes* and *Clermont Lodeve*. The Province gave him the same Advantage as to the two other *Royal Manufacturies*. The Estates of *Languedoc* have since added two others, with the same Encouragements; one at *Rieux*, under the Conduct of *Sieur Gurse*, a *Dutchman*; the other in the Castle de la *Grange des Pres*, near *Penzenas*, under the Direction of the *French Manufacturers*.

9. The last *Royal Manufactory* of *Languedoc*, is that of *Monsieur Chamberlin*, established also under the Authority of the States. It does not make for the *Levant Trade*, but only *Woolen STUFFS AFTER THE FASHION * OF ENGLAND, FOR THE SPANISH TRADE*.

10. The annual Product and Manufacture of *Languedoc* in the following Articles, is Sheep

	1,000,000 Livres
Fustians and Ratines	90,000
Blankets	230,000
Bergames and Tapestry	20,000
Woolen STUFFS <i>fine</i> and coarse,	4,100,000
Cloths fine, and others	8,450,000
Woolen Stockins	40,000
Hats	400,000
Total	14,330,000

11. They import Wool of *Spain*, *Constantinople*, *Salle*, *Algier*, and other Parts of *Barbary*, $\frac{20}{m}$ Quintals.

* And yet it is not so much as pretended, that any *English* or *Irish* Wool is imported to *Languedoc*, (see §. 3.)

CHAP. CLXVIII.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of Low Navarre and Bearn, Flanders, the Austrian Low Countries, Lorraine, and Bar.

1. **T**HE WOOL of *Navarre* is good, and passes for *Spanish Wool*; the finest Sorts are bought by *French Merchants* of different Provinces; of the others, they make some *coarse Stuffs* for clothing the common People. *Navarre and Bearn. Page 276.*

2. The Product of *Flanders* is, Corn, Cattle, Wool, &c. Their Manufacture, Cloth, Serges, Ratines, and other Woolen Goods, and STUFFS mixed with *Silk* and Thread; Camlets, Damask, Tapestry, Stockins and Breeches, and other Works of *Bonneterie*, knit and wove; Burats, Crape, Blankets, and the like; all these at *Lille*. *Flanders, Lille.*

3. At *Roubais* and *Turcoing*, there are many Looms for STUFFS of Wool, or *Silk* and Wool, made chiefly for the *Spanish Trade*, and other foreign Countries; some are brought to *France*, and even to *Paris*. At *Menin* and *Tournay*, they make Hats of Wool. At *Tournay*, Stockins of Wool, Moquettes (a Kind of Plush) the Stockins are for *Spain* and the *West-Indies*. *Roubais and Turcoing. Menin and Tournay.*

4. There are also a Number of different Manufacturies; those of fine Cloths that were formerly so flourishing throughout this Province (where it was said were 4000 Looms) are now only at *Ypres*, *Baitoul* and *Poperingue*; their dying in Scarlet is very fine in the first of those three Cities; and they make also there, as well as at *Honscotte*, and some other Places, Serge, which is greatly esteemed. *Page 277. Ypres, &c.*

5. At *Bruges*, is the great Magazine of *Spanish*, and *English Wool*, &c. that serve to supply the Manufacturies of that important City. The STUFFS made there, among others, are *Anacostes*, *Lamparilles* and *Serges*, fit for *Spain* and the *Spanish Indies*; also *Bayes*, and some *Camlets*. *Austrian Low Countries, Bruges. Page 286.*

6. The Woolen Manufacturies of *Lorraine* and *Bar*, are only at *St. Nicolas*, and *St. Mary*, and *aux Mines*; the Cloths are coarse. *Lorraine and Bar, Page 287.*

C H A P. CLXIX.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of the three Bishopricks, Metz, Toul, and Verdun; of Alsace, Roussillon, Amsterdam, Denmark, Sweden.

Metz.
Page 289.

1. **T**HE best Manufacturies of Wool in the three Bishopricks, are at *Metz*, and thereabouts; they are not very ancient, especially some of them; but have arrived to such Perfection; and the Trade is so great, that the Council Royal of the Commerce of *France*, thought it necessary in the Beginning of the 18th Century, to establish an Inspector of them. They make Ratines of all Sorts, different Kinds of light Serge, for Womens Wear, Cloth like the Pinchinats for the Country People, and some Druggets.

Toul and Verdun.

2. *Toul* and *Verdun* are less considerable in their Manufactures, they knit Woolen Sockins in all their Cities and round about; those of *Metz* are most esteemed.

Alsace,
Page 292.

3. At *Strasbourg*, the Capital of *Alsace*, the Woolen Manufacture is Tapistry, narrow Cloths, Blankets, Fustians.

Roussillon
Page 293.
Page 294.

4. The Wool of *Roussillon* is fine, almost of the same Quality with *Spanish* Wool; therefore the Manufacturers of *France* buy there, every Year, for considerable Sums; and though *Roussillon* has no considerable Manufactory, yet they make Blankets and some kind of Bures, or coarse Cloths.

Amsterdam,
Page 410.

5. In the Fabrics of *Amsterdam*, and thereabouts, are made, Cloths, Serges, CALAMANCA, or CALAMANDRES, *Etamines*, CAMLETS, and a Quantity of other Woolen STUFFS.

Denmark.
Page 457.

6. By a Royal Ordinance, November 28, 1727, all Cloths were prohibited in *Denmark*, except those made at *Copenhagen*.

Sweden.

7. The Manufacturies of Cloth, erected in *Sweden*, for the Use of the Army, &c. which had formerly failed, are now revived, and succeed, because upheld by the Publick, which gives all manner of Encouragement to the Scots and other Undertakers, and hurts the Sale of *English* Cloths there.

there. The Court, in Favour to the Manufacture of the Kingdom, has set a HIGH DUTY upon *English* Cloths, except such as are finer than those made in the Country; so that they have NO VENT there. The Undertakers have carried Workmen from *Germany*, and some from *England*; and besides the Wool of *Germany*, which they employ, they get a Quantity from *Scotland*, which is supposed to come from *England*; and without which it would be impossible * for them to work; their own Wool being very coarse.

C H A P. CLXX.

Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce.

Of the Commerce of Venice, Italy, Smyrna, Tartary, Persia.

1. **T**HE *Venetians* have a great Vent for Cloths at *Constantinople*; *Venice*, which are, in Truth, not so fine and beautiful as those of *France*, *England*, and *Holland*; but nevertheless more esteemed by the *Turks*. Yet it appears that they begin to dislike them; and the War declared between them, in 1714, had well nigh ruined their Commerce. No foreign Cloth is allowed to be imported to *Venice*.

2. The Manufactures of *Bologne* are, Cloths, &c.

3. At the Scale of *Smyrna*, the *French* vend 150 Bales of Cloth, *Londrines* seconds; 100 Bales of *Londres*, broad Cloths; 100 Bales of *Imperials de Sevennes*, not of *Gevaudan*; 200 Cases of Caps of all Sorts, 60 or 80 Dozen in a Case.

*Italy, Bologna, p. 500.
Smyrna, p. 511.*

4. The Cloths carried there, are of three Sorts, viz. *Londrines*, *Nims-Londrines*, and *Londres*. Page 514.

5. The *Londrines* are Cloths of *Holland*, of which the finest go to *Constantinople* and *Adrianople*; and the coarsest remain at *Smyrna*, or some other Scales of the *Levant*. Those of *France* which are made at *Sapte* in *Lan-* Page 515.

* Here again, Mr. *Savary* is to be suspected of having given too much Credit to some *English* Author. The Wool of *Sweden* is allowed to be very coarse. Nevertheless, this very Year (1746) we have seen in the public Papers, an Account, of an Edict or sumptuary Law there, forbidding the Subjects of that Kingdom the Use of any foreign made Cloth. But has not *Sweden*, besides that of its own Growth, all the World to range in for Wool, except the Dominions of *Great Britain*? Is it then impossible for these Manufacturers of *Sweden* to work without *British* or *Irish* Wool? Or, if it was so, can we, as the Law stands, think it possible they should be so amply supplied with Wool (as by the Edict mentioned, they plainly are) from *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*? The Thing is wholly incredible. Chap. 153. §. 7. Note.

guedoc, go also for *Londrines*. Only coloured Cloths are sent to the *Levant*; but they are different, according as they are designed for *Persia* or *Smyrna*.

6. The Colours for *Smyrna* are, Scarlet, or red Crimson, Violet, Purple, Green, Prince Colour, and Cinnamon. Those for *Persia* are, *Isa belle*, *Feuille morte*, Yellow, Citron, Orange, Flesh Colour, Celadon, clear Purple, Rose Colour, Carnation, Ainarante, grey Pearl, Blue, Lead Grey, and Scarlet. The Proportion of Bales is, $\frac{1}{4}$ for *Persia*, and $\frac{1}{3}$ for *Smyrna*.

7. The *Nisims Londrines* are the finest Cloths of *England*, which are made of *Spanish Wool* only. The *Londres* are also Cloths of *England*, but of a meaner Quality. The common People are cloathed with them at *Smyrna*; and the *English* truck there for 7 or 8000 Pieces a Year. There is in *Languedoc*, and in *Dauphine*, a Manufacture of Cloths sold to the *Levant* for *Londres* *.

Tartary.
Astrabath,
p. 740.
Persia,
p. 716.

8. At *Astrabath* in *Tartary*, are several Manufactures of STUFFS of *Silk* and *Wool*; and they make there a Sort of *Camlets* much esteemed.

9. The Manufacture of STUFFS in *Persia*, is very near upon the same Foot with those of *France*. As for CLOTH, there are no settled Manufacturies for them in the ordinary Method of making Cloth. But the *Persian* Workmen are very expert at making a Sort of Cloth VERY FINE from a Material disposed into a Felt, after the same Manner as Hats are made. These Cloths they use, to make Clokes, and for Coverings to their fine Carpets.

10. The *English* and *Dutch* have a great Trade for Cloth in *Persia*, by *Gamron*; where they are so much esteemed, that an Ell of middling Cloth is sometimes sold for 20, or 24 Crowns †.

11. In the Assortments of *English* and *Dutch* Cloth for *Persia*, there is also *French* Cloth, especially those called Cloth of *Berry* and *Uffeau*; and it seems now, as if the Manufacturers are arrived to such Perfection, as to be able to out-do their Neighbours; and that the new *India Company* will have no Need to send to *London*, or *Leyden*, to furnish their Cargoes designed for *Persia*.

Page 717.

12. The Wools of *Kirman* are the finest in the World. The *Dutch* have a Settlement there, under the Direction of that of *Gamron*. Their

Chap. 167.
§. 9. Note.
§. 6.

* Yet, as before observed *, are no *English* or *Irish* Wools so much as suspected to be imported to these Provinces.

† This is a Matter that needs some Explanation, since we have seen before *, that in the Cargoes to *Smyrna*, (whence the *Persians* are supplied) the Proportion of Bales is, $\frac{1}{3}$ for *Persia*, and $\frac{1}{4}$ for *Smyrna*; whereas was Cloth in *Persia*, ordinarily, any Thing near so good a Commodity as is here mentioned, the said Proportions would soon be reversed; and there would go $\frac{1}{4}$ to *Persia*, for $\frac{1}{3}$ to *Smyrna*.

Woolen

Delivered to Mr. [illegible]

Accounts (in Manuscript) of Wool bought and sold, in different Parts of England, for near 40 Years successively.*

- | <i>l.</i> | <i>s.</i> | <i>d.</i> | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|
| o | 17 | 6 | <i>per</i> Tod. |
| o | 13 | 4 | |
| <hr/> | | | |
| o | 16 | 6 | |
| <hr/> | | | |
| o | 13 | o | |
| <hr/> | | | |
| o | 17 | o | |
| <hr/> | | | |
| o | 18 | o | |
| <hr/> | | | |

6. 1716.

6. 1716. To Thomas Driver, Wool at per Tod	l.	s.	d.
(5 s. drawn back)	—	—	—
	0	19	0 per Tod.
7. Aug. 13, 1717. Delivered to Mr. Stocks [of Market-Stanton, Lincolnshire] 15 Tod of Wool at	—	—	—
	1	03	0
8. June 26, 1718. Wool sold to Mr. Stocks, 18 Tod at 20 l. viz. nearly per Tod	—	—	—
	1	02	3
9. Aug. 18, 1719. * Delivered to Mr. Stocks 3 Packs of Wool, at per Tod	—	—	—
And 4 Tod at	—	—	—
	1	02	0
	0	16	0
10. July 25, 1720. Sold to William Sutcliffe 19 Tod of Wool at 19 l. viz. per Tod	—	—	—
	1	00	0
1721. Wool unfold.			
1722. Unfold again, as appears from what follows.			
11. October 1723. Sold to Thomas Driver 90 Tod of Wool at	—	—	—
	0	14	0
1724. Wool, as again appears, unfold.			
12. October 7, 1725. Sold to Mr. Robinson [of Wakefield] 54 Tod of Wool for the Sum of 36 l. which is per Tod	—	—	—
	0	13	4

N U M B. II.

The following Account is that of a Wool Buyer, viz. Mr. Thomas Stephenson, of Wragby, Lincolnshire, dead some Years since ; but which Account is in a small Pocket-Book, delivered to the Author of these Memoirs

* This Account, notwithstanding its being genuine, will not tally (in the Year 1719) with some others ; the Reason whereof is not to be assigned at this Distance of Time, viz. why in the Year 1719, the Price should be nearer to that of the Years 1717 and 1718, than some others appear to be (there might possibly have been a Precontract.) But (which is most material) in this Account, the Advance of Wool in 1717 and 1718, and its falling again from 1720, to 1725, accords with those that follow. (N^o. 2, 3, 4.)

by

by Mr. *David Stephenson* of the same Place, Nephew to the deceased, who is ready to attest that it is all of his said Uncle's, or of his own Hand-writing; being Memorandums, of Wool bought, for seven Years successively, viz. from 1715 to 1721 inclusive, viz. in 1715, of ten several Growers; 1716, of one Felmonger, and 29 several Growers; 1717, of 28 several Growers; 1719, of 13; 1720, of 15; 1721, of 10 Growers. And as he did not buy, every Year, of all the same Growers, so to shew more exactly the Rise and Fall of Wool, I shall exhibit an Abstract of this Account, in the Manner following; beginning with one Person, of whom he bought for seven Years successively.

1. *William Emmet.*

Throwing in half a Stone of Wool
a Stone of Wool
a Stone of Wool

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1715—at—	0	18	0
1716 ———	1	0	0
1717 ———	1	4	6
1718 ———	1	4	6
1719 ———	1	0	0
1720 ———	1	0	0
1721 ———	1	0	0

2. *John Westmoreland.*

To throw Wool in

1715 ———	0	17	6
1716 ———	1	0	0
1717 ———	1	4	6
1718 ———	1	4	6
1719 ———	0	19	6
1720 ———			
1721 ———	1	0	0

3. *William Harrison of Fiskerton.*

July 4.
A Stone of Wool in

1716 ———	0	19	6
1717 ———			
1718 ———	1	3	0
1719 ———	1	0	3
1720 ———	1	1	0
1721 ———	1	1	0

4. *Mr. Simon of Bullington.*

July 28.
July 17.

1715 ———	0	18	0
1716 ———			
1717 ———			
1718 ———	1	5	6
1719 ———	1	1	0
1720 ———	1	1	6
1721 ———	1	1	0

Half

		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
	Half a Guinea over.	{ 1716 — at —	1	0
		1717 —		
5.	<i>John Holdsworth of Fiskerton.</i>	1718 —		
		1719 —	1	0
	August 23.	1720 —	1	6
		1721 —	1	0
6.	<i>Mr. William Richardson of Bardney Daines.</i>	{ 1716 —	1	0
		1717 —	1	5
		1718 —		0
		1719 —		
	August 23.	1720 —	1	9
		1721 —	1	0
7.	<i>John Barker of Fiskerton.</i>	{ 1716 —	0	19
		1717 —	1	4
		1718 —		6
8.	<i>Mr. Forster of Strubby.</i>	{ 1716 —	1	0
		1717 —	1	6
		1718 —	1	5
		1719 —		6
9.	<i>Mr. George Wells of Wragby.</i>	{ A Guinea over. 1716 —	1	0
		1717 —		
		1718 —	1	6
		1719 —		
		1720 —		
		1721 —	1	6
10.	<i>Mr. Knight.</i>	1717 —	1	5
11.	<i>Mr. Jenkinson's and young Mr. Forster's Wool, in the Marsh.</i>	{ 1717 —	1	7
12.	<i>Mr. Bell.</i>	1717 —	1	7
13.	<i>Mr. Jenkinson's Marsh Wool.</i>	1718 —	1	7
14.	<i>Mr. John Forster, jun.</i>	1718 —	1	7

N U M B. III.

A Letter from Mr. William Pell of Stalingborough, to James Ward, Esq;
of Market Raifin, Lincolnshire, dated Aug. 30, 1744.

S I R,

I Have herein sent you the Price of my Father *Clipsam's* * Wool and
mine, as sold, the Years following, am, &c.

William Pell.

1716	per Tod	20 s.	0	1721	per Tod	20 s.	0
1717	—	24 s.	6 d.	1722	}	—	19 s. 0
1718	—	25 s.	0	1723			
1719	—	20 s.	0	1724	—	16 s.	0
1720	—	21 s.	6 d.	1725	—	16 s.	6 d.

N U M B. IV.

Of the Prices of Wool, from 1716 to 1725 inclusive, as transmitted to
the Author from Mr. Davies, a Wool Stapler of Grantham, Lincolnshire, by
the Hands of Mr. Samuel Forster of Grantham aforesaid.

Years	Pasture Wool per Tod.		Fallow Wool per Tod.		Long Skin Wool per Pa.		Head Wool per Pack.		
	s.	s.	s.	s.	l.	s.	l.	s.	d.
1716	18	to 21	15	to 16	8	5	7	15	0
1717	20	26	18	20	10	15	8	17	0
1718	20	24	17	20	10	0	9	0	0
1719	18	22	16	17	10	0	8	15	0
1720	18	20	16	18	8	5	7	15	0
1721	15 6 d.	17	15	15 6 d.	7	10	7	0	0
1722	17	18	14	15	7	5	6	15	0
1723	16	17	12	13	7	5	6	17	6
1724	13	15 6 d.	9	10 6 d.	7	0	6	0	0
1725	13	15 6 d.	9	10 6 d.	6	15	5	12	6

* Mr. *Clipsam* was a Grafter at *Walesby* near *Market Raifin* in *Lincolnshire*; whose Daughter
Mr. Pell marry'd, and succeeded to the Farm, some Time between the Years 1716 and 1725.

N. B. See (Chap. 174 §. 20.) the Reason for being so very particular here, as well as in
N^o. 1, 2, 4.

Mr. *Parcival Teale*, a considerable Grafter of *Imingham, Lincolnshire*, his Account of Wool sold from the Year 1718 to 1744 inclusive, as sent to the Author by the Reverend Mr. *George Clarke*, then Vicar of *Imingham* afore-said (now Rector of *East-Barkwith* in the same County) in a Letter dated Feb. 4, 1744-5; who says, Mr. *Teale's* Manner is, to file his Tod-Bill every Year; noting upon it the Price he sells at; and that he himself copied the following Account from the said Bills upon the File.

N. B. To this Account are added the Woolen Exports from *England*, also the Imports of Wool and Yarn from *Ireland*, as often as the same have by any Means occurred to the Author within this Period; only omitting in the Woolen Exports, the odd Shillings and Pence.

Years	Wool per Tod.			Woolen Exports from <i>England</i> .	Imports of Wool and Yarn from <i>Ireland</i> .
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£.</i>	At a Medium of 8 Years to <i>Lady-day</i> 1728,
1718	1	1	0	2,673,696	227,049 Stone.
1719	1	0	6	2,730,297	<i>Essay by Mr. Dobbs,</i>
1720	1	1	6	3,059,049	p. 76.
1721	1	0	0	2,903,310	271,291 Stone.
1722	1	0	0	3,384,842	
1723	0	17	6	2,920,601	
1724	0	16	0	3,068,373	
1725	0	16	0	' Woolen Exports from <i>England</i> , from 1725 to 1728 inclusive, on a Medium, exceeded the Exportations, of 16 or 18 Years ago, 200,000 <i>l. per ann.</i> <i>Essay by Mr. Dobbs.</i> 1729. p. 77.	
1726	0	15	9		138,632
1727	0	16	0		130,220
1728	0	18	0		130,212
1729	0	18	0		130,521
1730	0	18	0		
1731	0	19	0		
1732	0	19	0		
1733	0	18	6		
1734	0	16	0		
1735	0	14	0	From <i>Christmas</i> 1737 to <i>Christmas</i> 1738.	
1736	0	14	0		
1737	0	14	0		
1738	0	13	6	4,158,643	
1739	0	13	0	3,218,273	
1740	0	14	0	3,056,720	Stone. Lib.
1741	0	14	0	3,669,734	144,700 8
1742	0	15	0	3,358,787	135,397 8
1743	0	19	6	3,541,558	131,410 15
1744	1	1	0		103,839

N U M B. VI.

Of the Price of Cotefwold Wool, Gloucestershire.

20th December, 1745.

S I R,

I Have sent you an Account of the Price of Wool, as it hath been sold upon our Hills, for Six Years past, viz.

				l.	s.	d.
1740,	1, 2.	at per Tod,	_____	0	12	0
1743,	_____	_____	_____	1	0	0
1744,	_____	_____	_____	0	17	0
1745,	_____	_____	_____	0	16	0

Our Tod is 28 Pounds.

N. B. The same Gentleman being desired to extend his Account down to the Year 1737, and also to give his Opinion touching the Reason of that extraordinary Advance which appears above, in the Year 1743, viz. from 12 s. to 20 s. he gave for Answer as follows,

' 1737,	_____	_____	0	11	0
' 1738,	_____	_____	0	11	0
' 1739,	_____	_____	0	11	6

' The Reason of the extraordinary Advance in 1743, was not any Deficiency in the Growth of that Year, but the many and great Calls to France; for the most of our Wool (to our Shame be it said) was then bought by Commission, for that Kingdom.'

N U M B. VII.

Of the Prices of Wool in the Isle of Wight.

				l.	s.	d.
1737,	8, 9.	_____	_____	0	11	0
1740,	_____	_____	_____	0	12	0
1741,	_____	_____	_____	0	13	0
1742,	_____	_____	_____	0	14	0
1743,	_____	_____	_____	0	17	0
1744,	_____	_____	_____	0	18	0
1745,	_____	_____	_____	{	0	16
					0	17

D d 2

N U M B.

N U M B. VIII.

The Prices of Wool in the Isle of Wight, compared with the same of Cotefwold, viz.

	Isle of Wight.				Cotefwold.		
	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1737,	0	11	0	—————	0	11	0
1738,	0	11	0	—————	0	11	0
1739,	0	11	0	—————	0	11	6
1740,	0	12	0	—————	0	12	0
1741,	0	13	0	—————	0	12	0
1742,	0	14	0	—————	0	12	0
1743,	0	17	0	—————	1	00	0
1744,	0	18	0	—————	0	17	0
1745,	0	16	0	—————	0	16	0
	0	17	0	—————			

Let us remark here, the Agreement, and the Difference in Price, at several Times, between the Wools of Cotefwold, and of the Isle of Wight; namely, that from 1737 to 1740 inclusive, they were altogether the same, excepting the small Variation for one Year (1739) of 6 d. a Tod. Whence, and from what has occurred elsewhere, may be inferred, that those Wools are, as near as may be, of the same intrinsic Goodness—But in 1741 and 1742, the Wools of the Isle of Wight advanced, one Shilling a Tod, each Year; while, in the same Years, those of Cotefwold were at a Stay, viz. at the same low Price as in 1740.—On the other Hand, the Wool of the Isle of Wight made but a small Advance, comparatively, in 1743, viz. from 14 to 17 s. per Tod; when that of Cotefwold rose from 12 to 20.—Again, in 1744, the Wool of the Isle of Wight advanced yet one Shilling more, viz. to 18 s. and the Wool of Cotefwold dropped from 20 to 17 s.—And how is all this to be accounted for? From the Nature, and the Arts of Stock-Jobbing.

We find (N^o. 6.) the Wool of Cotefwold pretty much bought up by Commission, i. e. by, or for extraneous Chapmen, such as had not, till then, interfered with those, who in the foregoing Years (from 1737 particularly) had been used to engross, and in Consequence of Combinations, to purchase it on their own Terms.

While

While such Combination kept its Ground, the Wool of Cotswold could (we see) make no Advance, as did that of the Isle of Wight.—But, in 1743, the Strife of Chapmen; in other Words, an Increase of the usual Number of Buyers, in Proportion to the usual Number of Sellers, raised the Market for Cotswold Wool, even considerably beyond the advanced Price of that of the Isle of Wight.

It's true, our Letter (N^o. 6.) informs us, that this extraordinary Advance in the Price of Cotswold Wool, was the Effect of its being bought up, with the View of sending it to France; and which possibly might be the Case.—But, as I presume the Author of that Letter was no way privy to such illegal Doings, So neither could he be certain that a Share of the Cotswold Wool was not bought up in that cheaper Season likewise (from 1737 to 1742) for the very same evil Purposes, of clandestine Exportation.

All that we can reasonably conclude therefore, and with any Certainty, is, that Wool Buyers, whether for home Use, or for clandestine Exportation, will combine, as much, and as often, and as long as they can, against the Growers of it; and that so far as any such Combinations prevail, and so long as any such indirect Practices are continued, so much are the Wools of England under the Pressure of a Monopoly. And when, and so far as these are by any Means dissolved, or broke into; so far that Commodity recovers its Liberty, and comes up to its natural Price.

Of this we have a glaring Example in the Case above, of Cotswold Wool; and which Instance proves further most demonstrably, that the Price of English Wool in England, is not influenced (as we have been given to believe, and has been commonly imagined) by the Quantity of Woolen Goods exported; seeing that in 1737, Cotswold Wool, and Wool of the Isle of Wight, sold but for 11 s. per Tod, although the Woolen Exports (1737--8) were 4,158,643 l. while in 1743, they were but 3,541,558 l. viz. less in 1743 than in 1737--8, by 617,085 l. notwithstanding that the Price of all English Wool was about one Third dearer, and that of Cotswold particularly, was near twice as dear in 1743, as in 1737. The Wool of Cotswold actually rose, in 1743, from 12 to 20 s. per Tod. And though this general Advance in the Price of Wool in England (1743) above what it had been sold at, in some foregoing Years, particularly in 1737, was then (1743) universally believed to have been the Effect of much larger Woolen Exports, in 1743, than in 1737--8; yet this universal Belief having since appeared to be so much the Reverse of Truth, it

is surely a Matter deserving the Notice of the Country Gentleman at least, and his Contrivance and best Endeavours to shake off that Yoke of Monopolish Abuse and Oppression, which has been so long, and so much galling to the Landed Interest and its Dependants.

C H A P. CLXXII.

Page 86.

From the Traite Le Negoce D'Amsterdam, by the Sieur Jean Pierre Ricards, 1722.

THE Price of Wools at *Amsterdam*, about the latter End of July, 1719.

Wools of
Germany.

1. De Rostock & de Gripswalde, de Stralfund & d'Anclam, —	100 lb.	{ Florins. 44 a 45 }	English Money nearly per Pound at a Medium, 10 d.
---	---------	----------------------	---

2. De Stetin, de Thorn, de Dantzick, & de Pruss. —	100 lb.	{ 46 a 51 }	11 d.
--	---------	-------------	-------

3. De Colberg, de Luneberg, & de Breme, —	il n'y en a pas.	{ 30 a 33 }	7 d.
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Of Poland.

4. Laine d'Ete de Pologne, —	la lb.	{ 9 a 11 Sols. * }	11 d. $\frac{3}{4}$
------------------------------	--------	--------------------	---------------------

Of Persia.

5. Laine de Car-menie rouge, ditto	{ 44 a 46 }	4 s. 2 d.
blance, —		2 s. 7 d.

* Twenty Dutch Sols are 22 d. $\frac{1}{2}$ English : So that the Price of *Laine d'Ete de Pologne*, was, on a Medium, at about 11 d. $\frac{3}{4}$ per Pound, at *Amsterdam*, in July 1719; when the best English combing Wool did not exceed (in England) 9 d. per Pound. Whence it appears, that these Polish, and also some other German Wools, are at least either of equal Goodness with the English, (consequently there is not that Reason for prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of English Wool, which is commonly alledged) or else the English Wools are depressed below their natural Value; the latter, I suppose to be truly the Case; and which (according to Sir *Josiah Child**) is a never failing Motive to clandestine Exportation.

* Chap. 48.
§. 3.

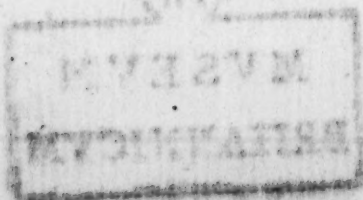
Spanish

<i>Spanish Wools</i>	<i>Sols Dutch per Pound.</i>	<i>English Money nearly.</i>
6. De Segovie, superfine - - -	40 a 41	— 3 s. 9 d. to 3 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto fine - - -	36 a 37	— 3 s. 4 d. to 3 s. 5 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto ordinaire - -	30 a 37	— 2 s. 9 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 3 s. 2 d.
7. Fine de Burgos	31 a 32	— 2 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 11 d. $\frac{1}{2}$
Ditto Ordinaire - -	30 a 31	— 2 s. 9 d. to 2 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
8. Soria Segoviane	32 a 33	— 3 s. to 3 s. 1 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
De los Rios - - -	32 a 33	— 3 s. to 3 s. 1 d.
De Lomberos - - -	28 a 29	— 2 s. 7 d. to 2 s. 8 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
9. Albarazin grande	25 a 26	— 2 s. 4 d. to 2 s. 5 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto fine - - -	27 a 28	— 2 s. 6 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 7 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
Ditto petite - - -	21 a 22	— 1 s. 11 d. to 2 s.
10. Cafferes —	27 a 28	— 2 s. 6 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 7 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
11. Seguenca Segoviane - - -	30 a 31	— 2 s. 9 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 11 d.
Seguenca - - -	21 a 30	— 1 s. 11 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 9 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
12. Quenca - - -	23 a 24	— 2 s. 2 d. to 2 s. 3 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
13. Cabeffe de Bues	24 a 25	— 2 s. 3 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 4 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
14. Serena - - -	22 a 23	— 2 s. 1 d. to 2 s. 2 d.
15. De Malaga ordinaire - - -	19 a 20	— 1 s. 9 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
16. De Puertos - -	29 a 30	— 2 s. 8 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 9 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
17. Cavalleres - -	30 a 31	— 2 s. 9 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 11 d.
18 Molina - - -	26 a 27	— 2 s. 5 d. to 2 s. 6 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
19. De Castille - -	25 a 26	— 2 s. 4 d. to 2 s. 5 d. $\frac{1}{8}$
20. De Campo - -	18 a 19	— 1 s. 8 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 s. 9 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
21. D' Estramadure	23 a 24	— 2 s. 2 d. to 2 s. 3 d.
22. De Seville - -	20 a 21	— 1 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 s. 11 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
23. De Navarre - -	13 a 14	— 1 s. 2 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 1 s. 3 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
24. D' Andaloufie -	20 a 22	— 1 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$
25. D' Estramadure -	20 a 23	— 1 s. 10 d. $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 1 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
26. De Trixito - -	24 a 25	— 2 s. 3 d. to 2 s. 4 d. $\frac{1}{4}$
27. Laines, de Portugal	22 a 28	— 2 s. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 s. 7 d. $\frac{1}{4}$

*Wools of Spain.**Wools of Portugal.*

C H A P.

N. B. We are told that the *English* import only the best *Spanish Wools*; whence is to be inferred, that some *English Wools* are equal, to all Intents and Purposes, to the *Portugal* and inferior

Chap. 105.
§ 14.

C H A P. CLXXIII.

Of Fullers, Fulling, Fullers Earth, and Teazles ; From Chambers's Dictionary, the Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce, and the Philosophical Transactions, &c.

Chambers's
Dict. Fullers
and Fulling.

1. **FULLER**, a Workman employed in the Manufactories, to full, mill, or scour Cloths, Rattens, Serges, and other Woolen Stuffs, by Means of a Mill, to render them thicker, more compact and durable.

Fullers Earth.

2. **Fullers Earth**, a fatty, fossile Earth, abounding in Nitre ; of great Use in the Woolen Manufacture. It serves to scour Cloths, Stuffs, &c. and to imbibe all the Grease and Oil necessarily used in the preparing, dressing, &c. of the Wool. It is dug * in great Plenty out of certain Pits near *Brickhill* in *Staffordshire* † ; also near *Rygate* in *Surry* ; near *Maidstone* in *Kent* ; near *Nutley* in *Sussex* ; and near *Wooburn* in *Bedfordshire* ‡ . It is absolutely necessary to the well dressing of Cloth ; and hence Foreigners, who

ferior *Spanish* Wools. But *English* Wools not being commonly sold in *England*, at any Thing near the Price of these at *Amsterdam* ; it is an Argument, even to Demonstration, that they are not suffered to take their natural Price ; and this is the true Reason of that invincible Propensity to the *Runnage of ours*, which has been so much a Topic of Complaint, for upwards of 80 Years last past.

Chap. 41.

§. 14.

Chap. 120.

§. 16.

Philos. ph.

Trans.

abridged.

Vol. 6.

Part 2.

p. 132.

* ' It is a Commodity, which the *Dutch* cannot get in any Quantity, or Worth, nearer than the *Streights*.'

† ' The Island of *Skyes* in *Scotland*, produces *Fullers Earth*.'

‡ *Of the Pits for Fullers Earth in Bedfordshire, a Letter : By Mr. B. Holloway, to Dr. Woodward.* n. 379. p. 419. Sep. &c. 1723.

' From the Surface, for about six Yards depth, there are several Layers of Sands ; under this, a thin Stratum of red Sand Stone ; then, for seven or eight Yards more, Sand again ; then, *Fullers Earth* ; the upper Layer, about a Foot deep, not good for Use. After this, good *Fullers Earth*, for about seven or eight Foot ; but distinguished into several Layers, at the Distance of about a Foot and an Half from one Horizontal Fissure to another. And it is observable in the Site of this Earth, that it seems to have every where a pretty equal Horizontal Level. These Pits are digged in that Ridge of Sand Hills, by *Wooburn*, which, near *Oxford*, is called *Shotover* ; on which lies *Newmarket Heath* ; and which extends itself from East to West, every where, at the Distance of eight or ten Miles, from the Hills called, in *Cambridgeshire*, *Gog Magog* ; in *Bucks* and *Oxon*, the *Chilton Hills*, &c. from the Chalky Matter of which they consist.

' This I take Notice of, because it confirms what you say of the regular Disposition of the Earth into like Strata or Layers of Matter commonly through vast Tracts : From whence I make a Question, whether *Fullers Earth* may not probably be found in other Parts || of the same Ridge of Sand Hills, among other like Matter.'

|| It may very probably, and if there was the same Encouragement for the one, as there is for the other. there would be as many Attempts to find out *Fullers Earth* in Great Britain, as there have been

10



who can procure Wool to be clandestinely exported out of the Kingdom can never reach to the Perfection of *English* Cloths, without Fullers Earth*. For this Reason, it is made a contraband Commodity; and the Export made equally criminal with that of Wool †.

3. *Teasle*: ‡ This Plant is cultivated with great Care in several Parts of *Teasles*. *France*, particularly in *Normandy* ||; and the Exportation thereof prohibited, by Reason of the vast Use thereof in the Woolen Manufacture §.

C H A P.

to find Coals. — But the Discouragement, in this Case, is, that Fullers Earth must not be exported; although Coals may; and yet nothing is more certain, than that Coals are equally, at least, necessary to Manufacture in general, as Fullers Earth is to the Woolen Manufacture in particular. Nor can there be a Reason assigned for prohibiting the Exportation of Fullers Earth, which will not hold equally, nay stronger, against the Exportation of Coals. Yet, don't I think, that the Exportation of Coals ought therefore to be prohibited.

* God hath not only given us Wool in Abundance, but another necessary Material, Fullers Earth, without which Cloth is not to be made; and (as they say) is not to be found any where else but in this Land.

† It is infamous to suffer Fullers Earth, Fulling, Clay, Teazles, &c. to be carried to *France*, &c.

‡ But (*i contra*), w In *Holland* and *France*, they have no Fullers Earth, and yet make as fine Cloth as we do in *England*.

§ The Fullers first make use of Urine, after that, of scouring Clay, or Potters Earth; in the last Place, Soap dissolved in warm Water. The Cloths fulled with Soap only, are better fulled, and in much less Time, than those in which Urine and scouring Clay is used; they are less subject to Holes, and softer in the Hand, and receive a better Colour from the Dyer.

Thus it appears, that Mr. Chambers has not been more happy in the Choice of his Authors, touching Fullers Earth, than upon the Subject of Wool itself.

‡ *Carduus Fullonum*, or the Fullers Thistle, a Kind of Plant much used by the Fullers, Cloth Workers, and Stockin-Weavers, to card or draw out the Wool or Nap, from the Thread or Ground of several Kinds of Cloths, Stuffs, Stockings, &c.

|| It is propagated in several Parts of *England*, more or less, but in the greatest Quantities at *Wrighton* in *Somersetshire*.

§ This Plant is cultivated with Care, in many Provinces in *France*, particularly in *Normandy*, about *Leny*, *Louier*, *Elbæuf du Portigois*, *Pont-de-l'Arche*; and in *Picardy*, towards *Tresnoi*; and in *Languedoc*, about *Gignac*, and other Places.

Those of *Picardy* are the best and most esteemed. They are used partly in the Manufactures of that Province. Nevertheless, a Quantity of them is sent to the Fair of *Beaucaire*; where the Merchants of *Lyons* buy them by Wholesale, to retail them to the Workmen in the *Lyonnais*.

The *Teasle* is sowed, as Barley, in the Month of *March*. In the Month of *August*, it is transplanted like Cabbage, and ought to stand a Year. So that the Heads are fit to be gathered towards the End of *July*, or Beginning of *August*, according as they come to Maturity.

These *Teasles* have been thought so necessary to the Woolen Manufacture, that it was not permitted to export them without a Licence, according to an Arret in 1689; and which laid their Duty, on Exportation with Licence, at 10 Livres the Bale, of 150 lb. Weight.

The Exportation of that Sort of them, called the *Chardon Bonnetier*, having been absolutely forbid by an Arret 1715, the Liberty of exporting them out of the Kingdom, was again given by an Arret, *Décembre* 21, in the same Year. The Cause of it was, the great Crop thereof in the Province of *Normandy*, the foregoing Years; by which Means the Barns and Warehouses of those that grew them, and traded in them, were overstocked. And therefore, to facilitate

Ch. 62.

§. 1.

Ch. 84.

§. 15.

Dictionnaire

Universel du

Commerce,

p. 527-8.

See Ch.

184. §. 27.

Dictionnaire

Universel du

Commerce,

pag. 795.

The Manner

of propagating

and raising

Teasles.

C H A P. CLXXIV.

Of the Plague at Marseilles, and its Consequences to the Woolen Trade and Wool of England.

AS the calamitous Circumstance, of the Plague at Marseilles, was an Incident, commonly reputed favourable to the Trade of this Kingdom; with much Stress laid upon it, for Proof of certain Maxims long held, in regard, to the Woolen Manufacture, and the Price of English Wool in England; it is therefore, altho' in some measure already spoke to, reserved as one of the most critical, interesting Events contained in these Memoirs, to be here more particularly considered in the last Place.

Ch. 123.

§. 5. Note.

Ch. 140.

§. 18. Note

Ch. 142.

No 6.

Ch. 148.

§. 8.---10.

1. The Author of the *Traite le Negoce d'Amsterdam*, A. D. 1722. speaking of Marseilles, says, 'It was about a Year ago very populous, but the Plague, which has not yet entirely ceased, has so raged since 1720, that this poor City is almost reduced to a Desert. Nevertheless, there is Hopes that this fine and great City, by its good Situation for Commerce, will draw new Inhabitants that will make the Commerce flourish again, as before. Most part of the Merchandize that has come from thence within a Year past, has been burnt, to prevent the Infection in those Parts, for which they were consigned; which has caused great Loss to the Insurers at Amsterdam.'

Ch. 119.

§. 8.

2. The Author of the *Atlas Maritimus & Commercialis*, printed A. D. 1727, speaking of the French Woolen Manufactures, and Trade for the same, says, 'They had extremely lessened the Demand (from England) in Italy and Spain; and we had some Threats that they would throw us out of the Trade at Cadix for the Spanish West Indies; and perhaps they might have gone a great way towards it, had not the Hand of Heaven interposed, and given the French such a Blow by the late Plague in Languedoc, as it's thought they will never recover, or at least, not in many Years.'

§. 10.

'But' the Plague has been a double Blast upon them; for besides the Havock it made of their People in some of the most populous Provinces, where

'litate the Trade with Strangers, the Duty on Exportation was reduced to four Livres, instead of ten.'

How much wiser in this Case, were the French, than in some similar Regards, are the British Politics, upon a vain, ill grounded Supposition, of their being beneficial to Trade and Manufacture! the

‘ the Manufactures were carried on to the greatest Height; all the Ports
 ‘ of *Europe* have been, as it were, shut against them; and so far have their
 ‘ Neighbours been from admitting them to trade, that several of their Ships
 ‘ are said to have perished at Sea; the Men being starved to Death; merely
 ‘ because they could not put into any Port for Provisions, or for so much
 ‘ as fresh Water. This at once deprived them, for many Months, of all
 ‘ the Trade of the whole Kingdom of *Spain*, as well as of the Ports of
 ‘ *Italy*; not a Piece of their Goods was permitted to go in the Galleons to
 ‘ *New Spain*, or in the *Portuguese* Fleets to *Brazil*, for two Years together;
 ‘ in both which consisted the Prosperity of their Manufactures; and by
 ‘ which they were always supplied with ready Money, for the carrying
 ‘ them on.’

3. Of what Advantage this was to England, Mr. Joshua Gee says^b, ‘ We Ch. 123.
 ‘ may judge by examining into the mighty Demand there was for our §. 5.
 ‘ Woolen Goods, when *France* was visited with the Plague, and stopped
 ‘ from supplying foreign Markets. The Demand for our Woolen Goods in-
 ‘ creased to so great a degree, that the like has not happened for many Years.’

4. The Author of *Observations on British Wool*, A. D. 1739^c. ‘ When Ch. 140.
 ‘ the Plague was at *Marseilles*, we had then a current Demand for all the §. 18. 19.
 ‘ Goods we manufactured. The Demand, at this time, was not particu-
 ‘ lar, but universal for Stuffs, Cloth, Hose, and all Sorts of Woolen Goods.
 And as a Consequence of this, he tells us that ‘ Notwithstanding all foreign
 ‘ Demand for Wool ceased, and all the Wool and Yarn of *Ireland* was brought
 ‘ to us, BECAUSE it could not be run abroad, OUR WOOL, was, then, one
 ‘ Third more in Value than now (1739.) This is a plain evident Fact, de-
 ‘ monstrating, that if OUR WOOL could be effectually secured to OURSELVES,
 ‘ the Value of it MUST rise, as it CERTAINLY DID, when the Demand for
 ‘ it was stopped by the aforesaid Occurrence.’

5. Mr. Webber, in his Narrative^d, ‘ The Plague in *France* putting a Ch. 141.
 ‘ Stop to all Intercourse with that Kingdom, our Goods were called for as §. 13.
 ‘ fast as we could make them; and we sold them at whatever Price we
 ‘ thought fit to set upon them; and OUR WOOL rose from 7*l.* and 7*l.* 10*s.*
 ‘ to 11 and 12*l.* a Pack.--These are undeniable Facts; and these Facts undeni-
 ‘ ably shew, &c.’

6. Mr. Gee, in his Tract, intitled, *An Impartial Enquiry*, &c. A. D. 1742,
 ‘ When Ships lay Quarantine, Wool rose from 15 to 30*s* per Tod.’

7. A Person styling himself, *A Merchant of London*, Author of *A Scheme*

to prevent the Runnage of Irish Wools to France, printed for R. Franklin (1745)

'When the Plague raged at *Marseilles*, the Demands for Woolen Goods, from foreign Countries, were so large, that the Wools of both *England* and *Ireland*, were insufficient to supply them.'

8. Now, tho' the CUSTOM-HOUSE ACCOUNTS will not perhaps come up to our Expectations, after having been thus raised by the foregoing Writers; yet, to shew this Affair in the very strongest Light, viz. by leaving out the Year 1720 *, as neutral or doubtful, because in JUNE, that Year, the Plague broke out at MARSEILLES; and the Truth is:

As to the Trade of England.

* See
Ch. 171.
No 5.

The Woolen Exports were *in

1718	—	—	—	—	£ 2,673,696
1719	—	—	—	—	£ 2,730,297
* 1720	£ 3,059,049				
1721	—	—	—	—	£ 2,903,310
1722	—	—	—	—	£ 3,384,842
Total { 1718 } { 1719 }					£ 5,403,993
Total { 1721 } { 1722 }					£ 6,288,152
Total { 1721 } exceed Total of { 1718 } { 1722 } { 1719 }					£ 884,159
1723	—	—	—	—	£ 2,920,601
1724	—	—	—	—	£ 3,068,373
Total { 1723 } { 1724 }					£ 5,988,974
Total { 1723 } less than — { 1721 } { 1724 } { 1722 }					£ 299,178
more than { 1718 } { 1719 }					£ 584,981

As to the Price of Wool.

Though the Woolen Trade was more in 1721 and 1722 by £ 884,159, than in 1718 and 1719, yet that fell something in 1721 and 1722; and in the two following Years 1723 and 1724, it fell considerably, altho' the Trade of those two Years exceeded the Trade of 1718 and 1719 by almost £ 600,000.

9. But

9. But tho' the Price of Wool did not fall very much in 1721 and 1722, from the Price of 1719 and 1720, yet was it considerably short of what it was in 1717 and 1718; and in 1723 and 1724, it fell greatly, even from the Prices of 1719 and 1720; altho' the Effects of the Plague at *Marseilles* (in regard to the Trade of *England*) had not ceased, admitting that the Distemper itself had. And notwithstanding the Price of Wool did not abate much in 1721 and 1722 from what it was in 1719 and 1720; yet I well remember, by particular Circumstances, that in 1721 and 1722, much of the Wool of the Country lay upon the Hands of the Growers, unfold; and for one of those Years at least, I am positive, uncheapened, *i. e.* not so much as looked at, or asked for by WOOL BUYERS. I do particularly remember a Wool Chapman in *October* 1723^f, purchasing three Years Wool of one Person, at a low Rate, and giving for the Reason of its being so much a Drug, the Quantities imported from *Ireland* to *Chester*, &c. And in the Year ending at Midsummer 1723, we have seen^g, was imported, of Wool and Yarn from *Ireland*, 271,291 Stones; which tho' we have very good Reason^h to think was considerably short of the Quantity imported, within the whole Year 1723; yet was it more than double the Quantity imported annually, from 1726 to 1729 inclusive, and from 1740 to 1744ⁱ inclusive.

f Ch. 171.
No. 1.
§. 11.

g Ch. 124.
§. 2.
h Ch. 126.
§. 29.

i Ch. 171.
No. 5.

10. Here then we may remark, That it had been long maintained by Writers on this Subject, that a Quantity of Wool exported from *England* or *Ireland* to *France*, or other foreign Parts, but more particularly, if to *France*, was not only the Loss of so much Manufacture and Trade, as to the single Amount of that Quantity; but that the same being multiplied *threefold* at least, every Stone of Wool exported, was losing to *England* the selling of the Manufacture arising from *three* Stones; and every Stone of Wool by any Means detained from clandestine Exportation, was the gaining to *England* a certain Market abroad, for the Manufacture arising from *three* Stones of Wool; whence was drawn this very natural Conclusion, 'That in proportion, as the usual clandestine Exportation of Wool from *England* or *Ireland* should be prevented, so, MUST the Price of that Commodity in *England*, advance accordingly.' This, I say, had been long insisted upon, as a fundamental Article, in support of various Schemes offered, and Opinions maintained, in Reference to the Business of *English* and *Irish* Wool. And to make the same pass beyond all Possibility of Doubt and Contradiction, was as material, as the Thing itself, if true, was interesting. But though this was an Argument that needed to be confirmed by some very well attested Facts; yet

yet had those, who invented and maintained it, contented themselves for many Years, with bare Assertions, that *so it was*. Till at last, in the Year 1739, the Conveniency of the Doctrine (as we may suppose) tempted the ^{k See §. 4.} Writer of *Observations on British Wool*^k, by a small Addition, of his own, to a Circumstance that was true, to pitch upon the Time of the Plague at *Mar-seilles*, as a Proof incontestible and decisive in this Case. ‘*Notwithstanding*’ (says he) *all foreign Demand for Wool ceased, and all the Wool and Yarn of Ireland was brought to us, BECAUSE it could not be run abroad; yet OUR WOOL was ONE THIRD MORE in Value than now,* (viz. in 1739.) And, if he had stopped here, he had been, literally, within the Bounds of Truth.—BUT, for the Sake of this beloved Inference, viz. ‘*That if our Wool could be effectually secured to OURSELVES, the Price of it MUST RISE.*’ For the Sake of this Inference, I say, he adds, ‘*It certainly DID RISE, when the Demand for it was stopped by the aforesaid Occurrence.*’ And tho’ our Wool; certainly DID NOT RISE at this Period; yet to have it commonly believed that it did, made so very much, as they thought, for their several Systems and Schemes, that, after this Writer of *Observations on British Wool*, Mr. WEBBER, Mr. GEE, and the MERCHANT of *London*, successively improved upon it; and scorning to be ignorant of any thing relating to this Subject, which any other Writer knew, and which also was so much in their Favour, they perfectly remembred the Case to be exactly according to their respective Representations¹. And indeed it must be allowed, that had the Thing been true, as they represented, their Inferences had been not only just, but greatly to their Purpose.

<sup>1 See §. 5,
6, 7.</sup>

11. But tho’ the real Circumstances attending this Incident, of the Plague at *Mar-seilles* (so far as relates to the Price of *English Wool* in *England*) make nothing (as we have seen) for the Writers abovementioned; yet do they contain a *very plain and interesting PROOF, decisive of a principal Question*. Which Question is, ‘*Whether, or no, it is a certain Consequence to be expected from confining effectually the Wools of Great Britain and Ireland, that the Woolen Manufacture would so far increase, as that the Price of English Wool in England MUST rise?*’ This has been averred, over and over again, with much Stress laid upon it (a Sign that the Price of *English Wool* in *England*, is commonly, at least, held to be a Matter of some Consideration) and for the Truth whereof, those Circumstances are a *Criterion of Moment, a Test much wanted, and difficult to be obtained by any other Medium*. For,

12. Many

12. Many Persons, who were not much inclined to a *Registry of Wool*, for its own Sake, were yet ready to wish for *such a Measure*, because they thought it might contribute to the solving of several Problems relating to that important Subject, and particularly this grand one, viz. *how far the Price of English Wool in England was capable of being improved by such a certain Confinement of all the English and Irish Wools to one Market?*

13. And though a *Registry of some Kind* has been often recommended, and for that End, various Schemes have been repeatedly offered; yet there being considerable Obstacles in the Way of them ALL, it is to be apprehended, that no one will ever be so far approved, as to be carried into Execution. And therefore, next to a *Registry itself*, this Incident, of the *Plague at Marseilles*, may lead us to conceive what would be the Fruits even of an *effectual Registry*, or (which is thereby propounded) of confining absolutely the Wool of *Great Britain and Ireland*, in Virtue of *prohibitory Laws*. For tho' it is not an exact Alternative to a *Registry*, it is nearly such. It does not indeed prove quite so much, in one Respect; but in some others, it proves even more than a *Registry itself* could do.

14. It does not, for Instance, certainly follow, if *France* had no *English* or *Irish* Wool, while the *Plague* raged there, that therefore no *English* or *Irish* Wool at all was exported in that Period. And yet, we have seen the Stock of Wool in *England*, and from *Ireland*, was too great even for its Trade at that Time, increased as it was. And as *England* had actually more Wool from *Ireland*, and probably sent less abroad at this, than at other Times; by which Means the *whole Quantity* was too great for the *whole Demand or Consumption*, although that was larger than common; so that very well explains the Reason why, though the Trade of *England* was CONSIDERABLY MORE, yet the Price of *English Wool*, in *England*, was SOMETHING LESS. Consequently, if we may argue from what *has been*, and from the Nature and Reason of Things, it is to be apprehended that an *effectual Registry* would give a greater Check to the Price of *English Wool*, in *England*, than the Circumstance of the *Plague* in *France* did; without procuring to *England* those Advantages in the *Woolen Exportation Trade*, which it actually derived from the aforesaid Circumstance, the *Plague* in *France*. For it is to be considered, that though it is very apparent that one Reason of Wool falling at this Conjunction, notwithstanding the good State of the *English Trade* all the while, was, because

cause the *French* had not *English* and *Irish* Wool, as at other Times; yet is it not so clear that the *English Woolen Trade* was then so much better than usual, for THAT REASON, as BECAUSE the *FRENCH*, at that Time, were deprived of THEIR TRADE; their MANUFACTURERS were swept away by the Pestilence, and their MANUFACTURES themselves burnt or left to perish at Sea.

15. And therefore, though a Registry of Wool in Great Britain and Ireland, and the Circumstance of the Plague at *Marseilles*, are so far similar, that with regard to the Price of *English Wool* in England, we might expect the like or worse Consequences from the former, than was experienced by the latter; yet whoever considers the State of Europe, and the World at large, as to Wool and Woolen Manufacturies, according to the Accounts given in the *Memoirs*¹ of the Dutch Trade—the *British Merchant*^m—the *Atlas General*ⁿ—*Salmon's modern History*^o—and above all, the *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*, will see little Reason to expect to ruin, (as we are apt to talk^q) the *French Commerce*, or indeed to hope for any uncommon, extraordinary Advantages to the Trade of England, in Consequence meerly of confining effectually the *English* and *Irish* Wools, by a Registry, or by prohibitory Laws in any Shape whatsoever.

¹ Ch. 92--64.

^m Ch. 97...

^{108.}

ⁿ Ch. 120.

^o Ch. 121.

^p Ch. 151-

^{170.}

^q See Ch.

^{143.}

^{N° 4.} §. 6.

16. There is yet a further Juncture and Coincidence of Circumstances in this Case, not unworthy of some Notice.

The Plague broke out at *Marseilles*, about the latter End of June 1720. And though the several Writers mentioned^r, speak of the Increase of Trade, and a supposed Advance in the Price of *English Wool* in England, as Occurrences, chiefly in the Years 1721 and 1722. And though the former, the Increase of Trade, was from the Beginning, a current Discourse and Belief; yet it is very remarkable that the latter, the pretended Advance in the Price of Wool, at that Time, is not once found in Print, till near 20 Years after, viz. Anno 1739^s. And indeed, had the Story been trumped up much sooner, the Notoriety of Things would then have been such, that Numbers would have been able to have contradicted it. Had the Lye been deferred much longer; as the Memory of that Advance in the Price of Wool, which did really happen in 1717^t, would have been wholly effaced by Time, so would it have made less Impression upon the Minds of the People. But the People having an indistinct Remembrance of a considerable Advance in the Price of Wool, somewhat near that Time, they more readily took for granted, that it was at the very Time, and

^r §. 1-7.

^s §. 4.

^t Ch. 171.

^{N° 1, 2, 3,}

^{4.}

and so swallowed implicitly both the *Fact* and the *Inference* from it. These were *Circumstances* favourable to the *Imposture*, and to the *Error* founded upon it. But those which follow, being true, make the *Creterion* still stronger, on the negative Side of the Question.

17. It was not long before the breaking out of the Plague in *France*, viz. but in 1717 and 1718^a, that Wool in *England* had bore a Price, which tho' ^a Ch. 176. not uncommon in former Times, I mean before the *Restoration*, yet was § 26. such, as that the like had not been known in *England* for near 20 Years before, nor since, for almost 30 Years. And in 1720, just before the breaking out of the Plague at *Marseilles*, the advanced Price of *South-Sea Stock*, advanced the Price of all other Things in *England*, except *Wool*; which could not get over the Price of 1716^a, the Year before the then ^a See Ch. 171. late Advance of that Commodity; nor did the extraordinary Advantages, N^o 5. so much boasted of, to the *English* Trade, in the Years 1721 and 1722, above those of 1718 and 1719, keep the Price of Wool from falling something, in those two Years. Such (we may suppose) was the increased Quantity in *England*, by means of extraordinary Importations, from *Ireland*, and through a ^a See Ch. 126. Defect of the usual clandestine Exportations from *England*, on the Score of § 29. the Plague in *France*; which resolving more Wool into the Hands of fewer Buyers; in a Word, increasing the Number of Sellers in the *English* Markets, and lessening the Number of Buyers there, produced that *Effect*, which Mr. *Locke*, with equal Judgment and Truth, has assured us will always proceed from such a Cause.

18. And though the Plague abating, or rather ceasing, after the Year 1722^a, Intercourse was again restored with *France*; yet *France* not hav- ^a § 1. ing recovered itself from that Calamity, had not, it seems, the same Occasions, as formerly, for *English* and *Irish* Wool; and therefore, albeit, the *English* Woolen Exportation Trade continued to be more, for the Years 1723 and 1724, by near 600,000 *l.*^a, than it had been in the Years 1718 and 1719, never- ^a See § 8. theless, I conceive, for partly the same Reason as before, and particularly because there came yet more Wool and Yarn from *Ireland* to *England* in the Year 1723^b, than in 1721 and 1722, it did not hinder the Price of Wool in ^b See Ch. 126. *England* from falling very considerably. All which Circumstances laid to- P. S. gether, are a PROOF, arising, if not fully, yet nearly to a Demonstration, that, from preventing absolutely the Exportation of Wool, by a Registry, or by prohibitory Laws, in Virtue of high Penalties (was that practicable) there

could not be expected any Advance in the Price of *English Wool* in England; but, on the contrary, AN EXTRAORDINARY CHEAPNESS OF IT, *without any Accession to the English Woolen Exportation Trade. except what (at the Expence of the GROWER) should be purchased by such CHEAPNESS OF WOOL.*

19. And yet a contrary Notion, founded on FALSEHOOD, and supported by ERROR and CREDULITY, had very near passed upon the Nation. The Writers abovementioned had vouched it successively; and they had been uncontradicted. And it was by mere Accident, that the Author of *these Memoirs* looking into the Manuscript Account (Ch. 171. N^o. 1.) discerned the Untruth. — Knowing the Manuscript mentioned, to be genuine, He was confident it could not deceive him; yet judging it not prudent to rest a Point of such Consequence upon a single Testimony, and which also happened to have been, for some Years, in his *own Possession*, He resolved to look out for collateral Evidence. — When, to his Surprise, what through the Distance of Time, and a Neglect in these Sort of Dealers, *viz. Growers of Wool*, to keep regular Accounts on this Head, He found the Thing not a little difficult. However, by the Assistance of some Friends, mentioned, ^{e. Ch. 171. N^o 2, 3, 4.} He did procure the written Accounts of Wool sold and bought in that Period. (See Ch. 171. N^o. 2, 3, 4.). And from these, it is very observable, that notwithstanding some little seeming Disagreements, in other Respects, they ALL accord most uniformly in the main Point, *viz. in dating that memorable Advance in the Price of Wool, from the Year 1717*, which the Writers abovementioned had artfully fixed to the Time of the Plague at *Marseilles*; and made their Use of accordingly.

20. And thus we have seen, how *so considerable a Juncture, for Want of being properly noted, when it did happen, was afterwards disguised, and the Conclusion from it inverted: So that if the Affair had not NOW, or SOON, been exemplified, in the Manner in which it here has been, the important Testimony it conveys, would have been lost; and in its Stead, the Reverse thereof, an UTTER FALSEHOOD, handed down for an INDISPUTABLE TRUTH. At least, if these Testimonies had not appeared, NOW, that there is an Opportunity, and a Possibility of disproving the same, provided they are not true, they must, though afterwards produced, have abated much of their Credit and Weight, BECAUSE contradicting essentially, Accounts that have passed with the Generality of the People, and Opinions which have gained Strength, upon the Authority of those Accounts. FOR THESE REASONS, it was desirable not to let slip so fair an Opportunity,*

portunity, but that THESE TESTIMONIES, and THIS PROOF should be communicated to the present Age, and transmitted to POSTERITY, clearly and fully as the Case admits of, and as it deserves. TO THAT END, the Author has been thus particular^a in naming his Vouchers, that in Case any shall be disposed to question the same, they may have the Means of being satisfied. AND IF NOTHING to the contrary shall appear (as He is confident NOTHING CAN) He hopes what has been here delivered for TRUTH, will, not only for the present, but to future Times, be so accounted of.

^a See
Ch. 171.
N^o 2, 3, 4.

C H A P. CLXXV.

A Recapitulation, or Summary of principal Matters contained in the foregoing Chapters, whether in the Way of History, or Argument; which being various and contradictory, are reduced, as near as possible, under general Heads, and ranged in opposite Columns; to the End that the Reader, by comparing the same, and seeing the several Authorities they stand upon, may better judge on which Side to rest his own Opinion.

N U M B. I.

(A)

1. *A. D.* 1331^a. This Year, the Art of weaving Woolen Cloth was FIRST brought from Flanders into England.

Lord Coke observes, ' True it is that Broad Cloths were made in England NOW, and LONG BEFORE this Time.' (Chap. 4. §. 16.)

2. *A. D.* 1337^b. It was enacted, that NO WOOL of English Growth SHOULD BE TRANSPORTED BEYOND SEA.

From the Time of *Edw. III.* the Exportation of Wool has been prohibited

(B)

A. D. 1224. viz. 9 *Hen. III.* c. ^a Chap. 5. §. 1. 25. was an Act for ' One Breadth of dyed Cloth, Ruffets and ' Haberjects, viz. two Yards with- ' in the Lifts'. Upon which Statute

2. The Words of the Statute are, ^b Ch. 5. §. 5. ' It shall be Felony to carry any Wool ' out of the Realm, until it be other- ' wise ordained.' This Statute was in *II Edw. III.* and in the 12th and 13th Years of that Reign, the King did

F f 2

hibited, under Penalty of Life and Limb. (Chap. 41. §. 2.)

Edw. III. by KEEPING OUR WOOLS AT HOME, put a Stop to the Manufacture of the *Flanderkins*. (Chap. 114. §. 10.)

* Ch. 5.
§. 12.

A. D. 1341 c. Because the King should before Michaelmas next, TRANSPORT 20,000 Sacks of WOOL, it was provided that No Man, before that Time, should pass over any Wool, on Pain of treble Loss, Life and Member.

* §. 35.

3. The Statute of *Edward III.* for confining the *English* Wools, hath continued now, these 300 Years. (Chap. 51. §. 1.)

* viz. any Staple Commodities.' But c. 1. of the same Statute says, 'They, viz. Wool and other Staple Goods, shall be carried forth by Merchant Strangers. (See Chap. 7. §. 1. Note. §. 3. Chap. 8. §. 18.)

4. *Henry VII.* made Statutes for Drapery, and for keeping of Wools within the Kingdom. (Chap 14. §. 9. Note.)

* The Statute was, 'No Person, during ten Years, shall buy, or take Promise, or Bargain, of any Wool that shall grow in *Berks*, &c. before the Assumption of our Lady [Aug. 15.] next after shearing thereof, but such as will make Cloth or Yarn thereof; nor any Merchant Stranger, before the Purification.' (4 *Hen. VII.* c. 11.) So that this Statute was not so much a Prohibition on the Exportation, as a Monopoly to the Merchants of the Staple, for a great Part of the Year, viz. from Aug. 15. to Febr. 2. See Chap. 12. §. 17. Chap. 14. §. 9. Chap. 15. 23.)

* Ch. 15.
§. 9.

5. It was provided, that no unwrought Wool should be exported. (Chap. 15. §. 9. Note.)

* Ch. 5.
§. 23.

6. 'Till the 15th Century, viz. *A. D. 1420*, our Wool was all sold in the Fleece to such of our Neighbours as came to fetch it. (Chap. 150, §. 7.)

Grotius and *Thuanus* both date the Ori-

did make DISPENSATIONS of that Statute, in CONSIDERATION OF MONEY PAID. Chap. 5. §. 5.

3. The printed Statute, and which is probably here meant (27 *Edw. III.* c. 3.) says, 'It shall be Felony for an *English*, *Welch* or *Irish* Merchant, to transport Wool, or, &c.

c. 1. of the same Statute says, 'They, viz. Wool and other Staple Goods, shall be carried forth by Merchant Strangers. (See Chap. 7. §. 1. Note. §. 3. Chap. 8. §. 18.)

4. The Statute was, 'No Person, during ten Years, shall buy, or take Promise, or Bargain, of any Wool that shall grow in *Berks*, &c. before the Assumption of our Lady

[Aug. 15.] next after shearing thereof, but such as will make Cloth or Yarn thereof; nor any Merchant Stranger, before the Purification.' (4 *Hen. VII.* c. 11.) So that this Statute was not so much a Prohibition on the Exportation, as a Monopoly to the Merchants of the Staple, for a great Part of the Year, viz. from Aug. 15. to Febr. 2. See Chap. 12. §. 17. Chap. 14. §. 9. Chap. 15. 23.)

5. The Statute is 'None shall carry beyond Sea any *Norfolk* Wool meet for making *Worsted*s, and *Stamins*. 6 *Hen. VIII.* c. 12.

A. D. 1346 f, the Commons petition that the new Customs lately set upon Cloth, (viz. upon every Cloth carried forth by *English* Merchants, 14d. and by Strangers, 21d. and upon every *Worsted* Cloth, 1d. and of Strangers, 1d.

Origin of the *English* Cloth Trade as low as the Middle of the 16th Century; the former, from the Dissolution of the *Stillyard Company* (1551) the latter, from the Duke *D'Alva's* Persecution, near 20 Years later; 'till which Time, respectively, they represent the Bulk of the *English*, as but Shepherds and Husbandmen, and their Merchants, as mere Exporters of *raw Wool*. (Ch. 17. P. S. Note.)

1d. ob.; and of every *Litt*, 10d. and of Strangers, 15d.) may be taken away.

A. D. 1353, were exported from England, 4774 $\frac{1}{2}$ Cloths, after 40s. Value; 8061 $\frac{1}{2}$ Pieces of *Worsted*, after 16s. 8d, the Piece. (Chap. 6.)

A. D. 1362, Ordered, that Merchants Aliens should not transport *Woolen Cloths*, except that Merchants of *Almain* might carry out *Worsted*s and *streight Cloths*, and Merchants of *Gascoign*, *Woolen Cloths*. (Ch. 7. §. 6.)

A. D. 1389, enacted, That Merchants and Artificers of *Worsted* in *Norfolk* may sell their single *Worsted*s to any Place or Person of the King's Amity, any Prohibition or Liberty to the contrary notwithstanding^k.

Forasmuch as divers plain Cloths wrought in the Counties of *Somerset*, *Dorset*, *Bristol* and *Gloucester*, be falsly wrought with divers *Wools*; insomuch that the Merchants who buy the same, and carry them out of the Realm^l, to sell to Strangers, be many times in Danger to be slain, and sometimes imprisoned, and put to Fine and Ransom. Therefore, &c.

A. D. 1390^m, Merchants of *Kerfies* require that they may freely transport the said *Kerfies* for the Old Custom.

In the Reign of *Hen. VIII.* Improvements were made, and something was done [by the *English*] towards furnishing their own Country [with *Woolens*] But the *Flemings* had still the WHOLE TRADE TO ALL THE REST OF THE WORLD. (Ch. 119. §. 5.)

At length, came the happy Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, when to complete the Ruin of the *Flemings*, as to Trade, the EXPORTATION OF WOOL WAS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED. Ch. 119. §. 6.)

The *English* Nation remained in much

The Merchants Adventurers, under the Name of the Brotherhood of *St. Thomas a Becket* of *Canterbury*, were a Company exporting Cloth so early as 8 *Hen. IV.* viz A. D. 1406. (Ch. 34. §. 2. Note.)

A. D. 1414. The Commons petitioned that *Streight Cloths*, called the *Dozens* of *Devonshire* and *Cornwal* might pay *Cocket Customs* after the Rate of *Broad Cloths*. (Chap. 10. §. 3.)

The Stat. 4 *Edw. IV.* c. 1. recites 'sundry Deceits and Abuses in making Cloth in England, to the Loss of

^k i.e. notwithstanding any Monopoly heretofore granted to any other Merchants in this Case.
^l Ch. 8.
^m §. 24. Note.
ⁿ §. 26.

ⁿ Ch. 12.
^o §. 6. Note.

Ch. 12.
§. 12. Note

Ch. 14.
§. 12. Note

§. 3.

Ch. 17.
§. 4.

much the same State in respect to Trade and Navigation, from the Time of the *Conqueror*, to the Accession of Queen *Elizabeth*; which consisted chiefly in transporting Tin, Lead, Wool, some Leather, Iron, and other Productions sufficient to purchase what foreign Commodities they wanted. (Ch. 122. §. 1.)

Edw. III. was the first Prince, from the Conquest to his Time, that we find took any Notice of Trade. From his Time to Queen *Elizabeth*, we do not find any one Prince that had much Regard for it. (§. 2.)

Edw. III. saw the Advantage of the Woolen Trade, and made a fair Push for having it removed hither; but for want of the like Care in his Successors, it did not take deep root, till the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*. (Ch. 123. §. 2.) *

The Woolen Manufacture was first chiefly established in *England*, in the long and happy Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*. (Ch. 133. §. 2.) †

‘ of the Nation, and Discredit BEYOND SEA’

The Stat. 7 *Edw. IV.* c. 1. says,
‘ Divers Persons in Norwich and Norfolk make untrue Wares in all manner of Respects, of all manner of Worsteds, by which they lose their antient Estimation BEYOND SEA.’

A. D. 1493^r, *Hen. VII.* translated the Mart, (which commonly used to follow the English Cloths) from Antwerp to Calais.

A. D. 1496^r, He concluded a Treaty, called by the Flemings, *Intercursus magnus*; by which the Arch-Duke desisted from the Duty of a Florin, which he before exacted for every Piece of English Cloth which came into his Dominions.

Hen. VII.^r, took Recognizance, of 20,000 Marks, of the Alderman of the Stillyard at London, that the Easterlings should not carry any English Cloth to the Place of Residence of the Merchants Adventurers in the Low Countries, or open their Fardelles of Cloth in the said Low Countries, to the Prejudice of the said Company, by putting their Cloths to Vent there.

A Sta-

* ‘ That King *Henry VII.* was the first Prince that put the *English* upon the Thought of manufacturing their own Wool, must be acknowledged to his Memory: We should not do him Justice, if we did not mention it, as often as the Original of our Woolen Manufacture is spoke of.’ *A Plan of the English Commerce.* By Daniel De Foe. P. 126. Edit. 2d.

† ‘ Queen *Elizabeth* fully stopped the Stream of Wool which supported the Manufacture in Flanders.

‘ By this Part of her Management, (prohibiting the Exportation of Wool) the Woolen Manufacture of the *Netherlands* received its fatal Wound—; for now, having no more Wool to work up, the work itself stopp’d at once; the Trade expired and died: Nor has it been able since that, to revive, no not in the least degree; for as it depended before, entirely upon the Supply of Wool from *England* for its Support; when that Stream failed, when that Channel stopped,

A Statute ^a, 27 Hen. VIII. c. 12. recites, 'that great Infamy and Slan- ^b Ch. 15.
 'der bad of late Years, risen in sundry Parts beyond Sea, of the untrue making ^c §. 26. Note.
 'of Woollen Cloths within the Realm.' About the Year ^d 1550, 44,000 ^e Ch. 17.
 Cloths were shipped, yearly, from England, in the Name of the Merchants ^f §. 1.
 of the Stillyard only.

A. D. 1552 ^a, The Company of Merchant Adventurers transported 40,000 ^b Ch. 17.
 Broad Cloths at one shipping. ^c §. 8. Note.

So early as 4, 5 of Phil. and Mary ^a, The Woollen Manufacture appears by ^b Ch. 18.
 the Statute Books, to have spread itself through North Wales, South Wales, ^c §. 9. Note.
 Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmoreland, Cumberland, Northumberland, Bi-
 shoprick of Durham, Cornwall, Suffolk, Kent, the Town of Godalmin in
 Surry, the County of York, City of York; Villages adjacent to the River
 Stroud in Gloucestershire: Besides those other Places more anciently noted for
 being considerable in the Woollen Manufacture, viz. London and the Suburbs,
 Somersetshire, Devonshire, Coventry, and Warwickshire, Norwich, Norfolk,
 Essex, Winchester, Sarum, Wiltshire, Worcester, and Worcestershire.

In the Time of Phil. and Mary ^a, the Cloth Trade of England was so very ^b Ch. 26.
 great, that the Trade of exporting Wool was almost wholly decayed. ^c §. 6.

A. D. 1564 ^a, Cardinal Granville prevailed with the Governess of the Low ^b Ch. 20.
 Countries to forbid the Importation of English Cloths; which Prohibition ob- ^c §. 1.
 liged the English to set up a Staple for their Cloths at Emden, a Town of East
 Friesland. At this Time, the Cloth Trade from England to Antwerp, rose
 yearly to about five Millions of Gold, viz. at the lowest Reckoning, 750,000 l.
 Sterling. Besides which, there was a Trade to ^a Amsterdam, Hamburg,
 Scotland, Ireland, France, probably, certainly to Sweden and Russia. ^b §. 7.

7. At the Close of the sixteenth ^a 7. *A. D. 1601* ^b, the Company of
 Century, the Exportation of any Merchant Adventurers trading chief- ^c Ch. 25.
 Wool at all was absolutely prohibit- ly in Cloth, were in Number about ^d §. 4.
 ed, on Pain of having the right Hand 3500. They exported in Cloth, the
 struck off. Value of a MILLION, yearly. Other

To prompt their Vigilance for English Merchants had also a great
 preventing the Exportation of Wool, Trade for the same into France and ^a §. 10.
 the Spain.

^a stepped, it could no more subsist, than a Body without Food, or Life without Spirits.' *Plan*
of the English Commerce, &c. p. 133.

^b Heaven gave to the English, Wool, exclusive of all Nations in the World.

^c Their King Henry put them upon manufacturing it.—And their glorious Queen Elizabeth
^d shewed them the Way to find a Market for it [beyond Sea.] Page 152-3.

the Judges, King's Council, and Spain. Besides which, there was a
 Masters in Chancery in Parliament. Trade to Turkey, Russia^d, Sweden,
 are seated on Wool Sacks. Ch. 150^e Barbary, Scotland, Ireland, and the
 §. 5, 6. Trade of the Merchants of the Still-
 yard, who continued upon the Foot of

Merchant-Strangers, not without some peculiar Indulgences; nor had there been
 any Act, as yet, prohibiting the Exportation of Wool. The Act 8 Eliz. c. 3. against
 carrying over Sea Rams, Lambs, or Sheep alive, on pain of having the right
 Hand struck off, has been misrepresented. For the Exportation of Wool was
 NEVER ONCE prohibited, or any way molested, during the whole Reign of Queen
 Elizabeth, otherwise than, as in Queen Mary's Time, by a Duty of 3 l. 6 s. 8 d.
 the Sack. Nor by our Forefathers^f was it ever prohibited, unless upon some
 great Occasion, and for some small Time, (and always^g with ill Consequences to
 the Nation) 'till the Year 1647.

Yet so early as the Year 1613^h, before there had been any standing Law, for
 prohibiting the Exportation of Wool, we find it noted thus: 'A customable Use
 hath always (i. e. immemorially) been observed to make it [Wool] the Seat
 of our Learned Judges, in the Sight of our Noble Peers [in the Parliament
 House] to imprint the Memory of this worthy Commodity within the
 Minds of those firm Supporters and chief Rulers of the Land.'

8. Before the Peace of Utrecht, 8. Dantz, 21 Oct. 1655: There
 we had no Rival in the Woolen but are yearly, in the upper Parts of Po-
 Trade the Dutch. (Chap. 133. §. 1.) LAND, towards the Borders of SILE-
 SIA, at FRAWSTAD and LIPA, and
 thereabouts, 220,000 CLOTHS made, besides the CLOTH made in these Parts;
 and at this Town 15000 Pieces of Rast. The Duke of Brandenburg hath
 bespoke a Livery for his Soldiers, 100,000 Ells, all SILESIA CLOTH at KO-
 NINGSBERGH, and not one Ell of English, which us'd to be altogether in
 Request. (Ch. 40 P. S.)

A. D. 1671, not only Flanders, Holland, and Zealand, but latterly,
 France is learning to be too hard for us [in the Woolen Trade.] (Chap.
 51. §. 2.)

A. D. 1677ⁱ some Turkey Merchants know that the Carcaffone Cloths
 find good Prices and many Buyers in the Levant.

You^k are not only deprived of that general and gainful Vent you had formerly
 in France itself— But in all other Places where yon traffique, you meet the
 French now (viz. 1667.) at every Turn; and the foreign Post brings News
 from

^d Ch. 26.
 §. 4.

^e Ch. 26.
 §. 4.

^f Ch. 56.
 §. 17.

^h Ch. 28.
 §. 1.

ⁱ Ch. 56.
 §. 26.

^k Ch. 59.
 §. 6.

from all Parts, that they are before you, and have underfold you in the same Commodities.

A. D. 1703¹, Oct. 23. the King of France issued an Arret, ordaining that *Stuffs called Bays, Perpetuanas, &c. of their own Manufacture, sent into Italy, shall pay but 30 Sols per 100, Duty.* Ch. 88. §. 5.

A. D. 1713^m. It is owned on all hands to be true, that the French do send *great Quantities of Woolen Goods to Spain, Italy, Portugal, Turkey, the Rhine, &c.* (See Chap. 101. §. 3. Chap. 102. §. 5. Note. §. 7. Note.) Ch. 99. §. 2.

NUMB. II.

(A)

1. The Makers of Cloth beyond the Seas must needs have them [*viz.* the *English Wools*] to cover their own Wools in the indraping. (Chap. 33. §. 4.)

Our Wool for Clothing (*i. e.* *English* and *Irish* Wool) is to all the World, as much a Necessary of Life, as any thing else. Cloth for general Use CANNOT be made without it: NOR any other Sort to Perfection. (Chap. 145. §. 1.)

Without *English* or *Irish* Wools there can be no Quantity of fine Worsted Stuffs, nor a middle Sort of Cloth made in the whole World. (Chap. 51. §. 3.)

Without *English* Wool Foreigners can scarce make a tolerable Piece of Drapery. (Chap. 57. §. 2.)

Foreigners cannot make neat Woolen Goods without a Mixture of *British* and *Irish* Wool. Therefore by keeping our own Wools at home, we might at once secure the Demand of the *whole World* on us for neat Woolen Goods, as the *Dutch* have

VOL. II.

(B)

1. To affirm that the Makers of Cloth beyond the Seas, cannot make Cloth without our *English* Wool, is as true, as that wherewith the State hath been so abused, That the Dutch could not subsist without our *English* Cloth. ^a That the latter is false, our ⁿ Ch. 34. §. 1. own ill Experience can teach us. That the former is foolish, those that know the State of Dutch Land, will tell us.

Wool^o is abounding in almost ALL ^o Ch. 79. §. 25. Countries of Europe.

We know^p that other Nations want^p Ch. 45. neither the Art, nor the Materials for §. 2 making Cloth.

I know^a that it is generally believed, ^a Ch. 140. that the making of Cloth abroad, of §. 1. our Wool, is that which destroys our Trade; but that is a Mistake.

We know^r that other Nations want^r Ch. 105. neither Art nor Materials for the §. 2. Woolen Manufacture.

Others Nation^s have Wool as well^s Ch. 107. §. 4. as Great Britain and Ireland; and 'tis but cheating ourselves, to fancy that all the Materials for Woolen Cloth are of our own Growth. Portugal, as well

G g

as

have for their Spices. (Chap. 132. §. 2.)

§. 8.

Without the Help of our Wool, there could be no ordinary low priced * Cloth made. (Chap. 62. §. 2.)

Chap. 48. §. 8.

We should, like the Dutch [and the French] make the worst, as well as the best of all Manufactures, that we may be in a Capacity [like them] of serving all Markets and all Humours.

2. If the Wools of England and Ireland were secured from Exportation to Foreigners, doubtless England would be the GENERAL MARKET for the WHOLE UNIVERSE, for the Matter of Clothing. Woolen Goods, without OUR WOOL, must be purchased from us, at OUR OWN PRICE. (Ch. 131. §. 4.)

By keeping OUR WOOL at home, Foreigners could ONLY be supplied from HENCE. (§. 8. Note.)

When Foreigners CAN'T have OUR WOOL, we may fix our Goods at what Rates we please, and dispose of them, at whatever Rates we think proper to fix them. (Ch. 148. §. 9.)

this bears No Proportion to the Skill of particular Clothiers, &c. Chap. 128. §. 3.

Chap. 87. §. 5.

3. The Wools of Spain are finer than any other; yet will they not sort in Work with any but English Wool; neither will they be wrought into Cloth, without the Help and Mixture

as Spain, has better Wool than ever grew in England.

I know very well that Wool is the Growth of other Countries, as well as England, and in some Countries, in much more Perfection than in England; and they have Dying Goods too, which are wanting here.

2. The Woolen Manufacture is often called OUR Manufacture, OUR OWN Manufacture; as if WOOL was not the Growth of any other Country; or as if other Countries did not know how to work it up. Ch. 103. §. 1. Note.

We compliment ourselves with the Woolen Manufacture, call it OUR WOOL, OUR Woolen Manufacture, as if there was no such Thing in the World but in Great Britain; and yet it is certainly known that other Nations want neither Art nor MATERIALS for this Performance. Chap. 107. §. 7.

Woolen Goods are the Staple Commodity of England, in which they have the natural Advantage of great Quantities of very good Wool of their own. But their Workmen, and the great Stock of

3. It hath been proved, more than once, before the Parliament, that NO CLOTH above 10 s. a Yard, white, or 13 s. per Yard, mixed, hath one Dram of English Wool in it.

See

* See Chap. 163. §. 1.

Mixture of *English Wool* (Chap. 41. §. 4.) Neither will any Wools be all mixed together, but *English* and *Spanish* (for Cloth) only; because the *Spanish* is with the *English* of one Nature, being formerly *English Sheep*. (Chap. 51. §. 3.)

The Wool of *Spain* is so exceeding fine, that it cannot be mixed with the coarse hairy Wool of foreign Growth; nor can they be manufactured together, without the Wool of *Great Britain* or *Ireland*. (Chap. 131. §. 5.)

4. Foreign Wool for the most part is so coarse and hairy, that it cannot make several Assortments fit for foreign Trade, without the Assistance of *British* and *Irish Wool*. (Chap. 131. §. 5.)

The *French Wool* particularly is very coarse, fit only to make a Sort of Cloth for Seamen and Fishermen. (Chap. 55. §. 3.)

The Wool of *France* and *Holland* is of that Nature and Quality, that it will NOT make CLOTH or STUFFS for Ornament or Use, without a Mixture of OURS, (i. e. *English* or *Irish*) (Chap. 112. §. 3.)

The *French* make no good Cloth of their own Wool, without at least one third of *English Wool*, to mix with it. (Chap. 150. §. 3.)

many, *Pomerania*, *Dantzick*, *Prussia*, *Brunswick*. These are combed and spun in *Flanders*; of which they make very fine woove Stockins, and some fine Cloth. (Chap. 153. §. 1.)

The Commerce of Wool is one of the most considerable Branches of Trade in *Amsterdam*. (Ibid. §. 2.)

See (Chap. 151—168.) *Dictionnaire Universel du Commerce*.

See particularly, Chap. 156. §. 10. Chap. 158. §. 3—9.

At *Romorantin*, is a Fabric of white Cloths, half of *Spanish Wool*, §. 3. half of fine Wool of *Berry*; which Cloths are fit to be dyed *Scarlet*.

At *Carcassone*, the Cloths are made of Wool of *Bezier*, *Narbonne*, and *Spain*. Chap. 167. §. 4.

4. Of one Fleece of Wool, an Artist will make four or five Sorts, and allot every Sort to the Use it is fittest for; whereas, if that Fleece were all carded through other, the hairy Part would spoil the finer [for] a small Matter may blemish any Thing. Chap. 89. §. 17.

[Though the Wools of *France* are not (much of them) equal to *Spanish* and *Portugal Wools*, nor generally to the Wools of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*; yet several large Provinces of *France*, viz. *Languedoc*, *Berry*, *Normandy*, *Burgundy*, *Picardy*, and *Champagne*, produce Wools in good Plenty, which make Cloth, Serges, Razes, &c. very fine. Chap. 151. §. 5, 7, 8.

There come from *Holland*, two Sorts of Wool; those of the Country, and those that the Dutch have from *Germany*.

These are combed and spun in *Flanders*; of which they make very fine woove Stockins, and some fine Cloth.

The Commerce of Wool is one of the most considerable Branches of Trade in *Amsterdam*.

The fine Cloths of France are of three Sorts ; the finest is made of the fine Wool of Segovia, without any Mixture ; the second of Segovia Wool, and that of Albarazin ; the third of other middle Sorts of Spanish Wool. (Chap. 156. §. 3.)

Have we forgot that our Draps de Berry, &c. took their Names from theirs [the French] Manufactures. But if they, or other Foreigners, are pleased with a worse made Cloth than ours, because it is cheaper, are not they in the right to gratify them ? (Chap. 102. §. 7. Note.)

The Druggets of Rheims are commonly made of fine Segovia Wool, spun very fine. (Chap. 156. §. 9.)

In Serge facon de Londres, the Warp is the longest and finest Wool of Berry ; the Woof, Prime and Second of Spain, and Portugal. (§. 16.)

Perpetuanas fine, English like, are made at Montpelier, Nismes, Castres, and other Cities of Languedoc, (where no English Wool is pretended to come) some for Cadiz, others for Italy. (§. 17.)

5. *French Wool is not worth above 4 l. a Pack ; mixed with English, it is worth above 12 l. a Pack. (Chap. 51. §. 11.)*

One Pack of British or Irish Wool, will work up two besides itself, of the coarse harsh Wool of foreign Growth ; which otherwise would be useless, in respect to their foreign Trade with Turkey, Spain, and Portugal. (Chap. 131. §. 8.)

5. *The Wool of Tours [which is of the coarse Sort of French Wool] is commonly sold from 60 to 75 Livres the Quintal, (viz. about 6 l. 10 s. the Pack, on a Medium.) Chap. 162. §. 7.)*

A great Part of the Wool of France hath a stichel Hair in it, like some of our Wool in Norfolk, and some Parts of the North. This Hair continues to stare out, make it into what Goods you will ; neither will it dye into any proper Colour. (Chap. 140. §. 1.)

At Rethel, the Mixture which the Workmen make of common Wool, mixed with fine, lowers considerably the Price and Quality of their Goods. (Chap. 158. §. 4.)

At Moncontan, the Stuffs made, are Tiretaines of different Fashions, of the Refuse of Wool, from Niort, Bourdeaux, Xaintes, and Senfa. (Chap. 160. §. 4.)

6. *Why should we be at the Trouble of contriving to go cheap to Market,*

6. *The French can be in NO WANT of Wool, though they should not be supplied*

Market, as the *French*, and have the Price of our Goods beat down, when we can at once hinder them from going to Market at all, and by having the Market to OURSELVES be able to fix OUR OWN PRICES. (Chap. 145. §. 10.)

If we do (as we may do) prevent the Exportation of Wool, we shall put it out of the Power of Foreigners to make the Goods they now make, and consequently OBLIGE THEM to buy of us. (Ch. 141. §. 3.)

The *French* make wherewith to supply themselves, and other Nations; which they COULD NOT DO, were they not furnished with Wool from *England* and *Ireland*; their own being unfit to work by itself. (Chap. 114. §. 9.)^w

'Tis fully demonstrated by the great Charge and Risk *England's* Rivals run, in getting the *Irish* Wool, that, as they do not need it for Quantity, having Wool of their own, so 'tis for Quality; without which they cannot work up their own into such Goods, that they rival *England* in. (Chap. 125. §. 2.)

' Value, in Consequence of A MONOPOLY, occasioned by prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool.' Ch. 153. §. 6. Ch. 148. §. 32.

supplied with any from *England* and *Ireland*. (Chap. 105. §. 12.)

It is allowed, the *French* can be in no want of fine Wool from *Spain*. They can have sufficient coarse Wool also, without coming into *England*. §. 13.

We take only from *Spain*, the fine *Segovia* Wool; but the *Spanish* have several other Sorts, which answer all the Uses of *English* Wool. So that *France*, without coming to us, cannot want Wool for ANY PART of the *Woolen* Manufacture. §. 14.

Foreigners CANNOT BE PREVENTED FROM MAKING CLOTH. Ch. 73. §. 4.

At *Beauvais*, are made fine *Serges*, of *English* Wool only. *Reveches*, English-like, of *French* Wool. *Flannels*, English-like, of the same, viz. *French* Wool. (Chap. 157. §. 10.)^w See above §. 5. (B) viz. at *Moncontan*, &c.

['Tis the *Irish* and *English* who run the Risk] ' preferring a certain ' Gain to the Dangers which they ' have a Chance to escape.' [It is for its Quality, that our Rivals do buy the *English* and *Irish* Wools; and that Quality is, the PRICE of it] ' depressed at HOME, below its natural

N U M B. III.

(A)

1. By engrossing the Wool of *Ireland*, we should engross the whole *Woolen* Trade to ourselves, without the

(B)

1. Notwithstanding the contrary is a Common Plea, yet those who know any Thing of the Matter, are well assured that

the Possibility of being rivalled; and [we should] have it in our Power (as the *Hollanders* do by their Spices) to fix our own Prices. (Chap. 131. §. 9.)

2. The Demands for our Goods abroad, were always greatest, and the Price of them, and of unmanufactured Wool, was always highest, when the least Wool was exported unmanufactured. (Chap. 141. §. 10.)

Chap. 140. §. 18. Note.

3. When the Plague was at *Marseilles*, our Wool was one third more in Value than it is now (1739.) We had a current Demand for all the Goods we manufactured; and notwithstanding the foreign Demand for Wool ceased, and all the Wool and Yarn of *Ireland* was brought to us, because it could not be run abroad, yet the Price of it certainly rose, (Ch. 140. §. 18.) from 7 l. 10 s. to 11 l. a Pack. (Ch. 141. §. 13.)

Chap. 174.

When Ships lay Quarantine (meaning the same Time of the Plague at *Marseilles*) Wool advanced from 15 to 30 Shillings per Tod. (Chap. 148. §. 8.)

their Manufactures burnt, or left to perish at Sea. The Effects of the Plague could not cease with the Distemper. Accordingly, the Woollen Exports from England, were not only greater in 1721 and in 1722, than in 1718 and 1719, but also in 1723 and 1724. Nevertheless, Wool, in England, fell in Price all the while; and in 1724, was become considerably cheaper than in 1719 and 1720.

that [*Irish Wool and Yarn*] are a Means to reduce the Price of English Wool, in England. Accordingly, at Times, we find some admitting the Thing, and defending the Utility of it to the Public. Chap. 125. §. 7. Note. See Chap. 124. §. 5.

2. There is no Instance to be given of the Time, when, Wool selling well in England, there was not room to suppose, from other Circumstances, that it was at that very Time exported, at least, as much as at any other. Chap. 117. §. 13. Note.

3. Wool was, one Third, dearer at the Time of the Plague breaking out at *Marseilles*, than in 1739. But to say that it had advanced, upon the Occasion of that Incident, is a direct Falseness. On the contrary, it fell in Price; and did so, most probably, as one Reason, because less Wool than common was exported from England; and because a greater Share than usual, of the Wool and Yarn of *Ireland*, was then brought to England.

The Plague broke out at *Marseilles*, June 1720. It raged near two Years. During which Time, the French had no Trade from those Parts: Their Manufacturers were swept away by the Pestilence; and

4. Wool is now (1739) fallen to 4 l. 10 s. and 5 l. a Pack. And it is computed, that France has certainly, at this Time, 300,000, probably 500,000 Packs of English and Irish Wool, yearly; because there are not now a Third Part of the Number of Combers, Scriblers, and Carders in England and Ireland, which were in 1698. (Chap. 141: §. 14.)

be conceived, by the Exportation of Wool. Yet, from Custom-House Accounts, since then, exhibited to Parliament, it appears that Ann. 1737-8. (the very Instant when these Complaints were loudest,) the English Woolen Exports were more than $\frac{1}{2}$ greater than in the Year 1699; which Year 1699, had exceeded all others, to the Year 1713.

N. B. There is not one Tittle of material Truth in the foregoing N^o. 1, 2, 3. (Column A.) Nevertheless, such have been the most current History, Doctrines, and Opinions upon this Subject. And the Reason why they have been so industriously propagated, though false, was the Convenience of them for the Purposes of Monopoly.

But though some Writers, in the opposite Column (B) have given their Testimony against one Point, (for supporting which, all the rest have been invented and packed together,) viz. That the French and other Foreigners cannot support their Woolen Manufactures, without the Help of English or Irish Wool. Though, I say, they plainly give up this, as also that other, (the Consequence of it.) That the preventing the Exportation of English or Irish Wool, is a Means to raise their Price at Home. And though they will not say that prohibitory Laws in this Case, are effectual, for preventing the Runnage of Wool; yet, because such Prohibition is a Means to make it cheaper in England; THEREFORE, for the Benefit of foreign Trade, they hold that Policy to be defensible, upon much the same Principles, on which they have (some of them) defended the Use of East India Manufactures in England, although they confessedly both lowered the Price of Wool, and lessened the Employment of the People on Home Manufactures.

Their

Thus much was time with a Witness. Wool was sold in 1739, and for some Years before, for less Silver than what in 1581, was valued the ancient Price; and, for less Silver, by at least one Third, than it actually did sell for in 1581.

And though great Complaints were heard, at this Time, and particularly for a few Years before, of a Deadness of Trade, occasioned, as was said to

Chap. 142.
N^o. 7. §. 6.

Their Arguments to this End (*which because not quite popular, have therefore been more sparingly used*) are as follows, (N^o. 4. (A) with the contrary Sentiments of eminent Merchants, in the Column (B).

N U M B. IV.

(A)

(B)

^f Chap. 100.
§. 2.

1. It is the Exportation, and not the Consumption of Woolen Manufacture, that must bring Profit to the Kingdom. (*Chap. 79. §. 2.*)

1. *The first and best Market of England, are the Natives and Inhabitants of England.*

^s §. 10.

2. The natural Way of promoting the Woolen Manufacture is, not to force its Consumption at home. (*Chap. 79. §. 20.*)

2. Our own^s Consumption, of our own People, are the best and greatest Market for the Product and Manufactures of our own Country. The Preservation and Increase of this Market ought therefore to be the Thing principally regarded.

^h Chap. 98.
§. 1.

3. By a great Consumption of Woolen Manufacture in this Kingdom, the Public will not reap such an Advantage as some imagine. (*Chap. 79. §. 24.*)

3. 'Tis a^h Maxim generally assented to, That a Trade may be of Benefit to the Merchant, and an Injury to the Nation.

ⁱ Chap. 103.
§. 2.

In the Woolen Manufacture, England does not get by what is spent here (§. 26.); 400,000 Pounds worth of our native Goods, sold abroad, does add more Wealth to the Nation's Stock, than four Millions worth of our Home Product, consumed within the Kingdom. (§. 29.)

The Merchantⁱ may have a distinct Interest from that of his Country; HE may thrive by a Trade which shall be her Ruin.

^k Chap. 69.
§. 1.

Merchants^k, Shopkeepers, Artificers, Clothiers, and other Manufacturers, are not the best Judges of Trade, as it relates to the Power and Profit of a Kingdom; 'till being grown rich, they leave off their Trades, and become of the same common Interest with most of their Countrymen.

4. It encourages^l Merchants to increase their Exports, when they find a quick Vent for their Imports.

^l Chap. 114.
§. 22.

4. The Estates of England are raised too high, their Labour is too dear. If they will have Commerce, they must suffer their Estates to fall, their Labour to lower its Price. (*Chap. 129. §. 3.*)

It cannot be ill with Land, but Trade must feel it. (*Chap. 47. §. 1.*)

When

When Trade deadens in the Fountain, when the Gentlemen and Farmers are kept low, every one in his Order feels it. (Chap. 114. §. 22.)

5. 'Tis not the Benefit, nor Interest of England, that WOOL should bear an high Price, in our Markets at home. (Chap. 79. §. 23)

Cheapness of Materials is the most proper Means of increasing the Vent of the Manufacture. (Ch. 73. §. 4.)

Subtilty, and Violence, is the general Course of Trade. (Chap. 48. §. 3.)

5. To forbid the Export of any Commodity to another Country, is to command it to be sold at your own Price, to yourselves. (Ch. 129. §. 1.)

They that give the best Price for a Commodity, shall never fail to have it, by one Means or another, notwithstanding the Opposition of any Laws, by Sea or Land. Of such Force,

C H A P. CLXXVI.

A Recapitulation, or summary Account of the Price of Wool in England, and of the English Exportations in general, and Woolen Exports, in particular, at several Periods, as they have occurred in the foregoing Chapters, and elsewhere. Whence may be seen, at one View, of Wool, its Rise, or Fall; of the Woolen Trade, its Progress, Declensions, Revolutions, &c.

N.B. The ancient Prices and Sums are here reduced to the Quantity of Silver P. S. (nearly) in the present Coin of Great Britain. ^{P See Ch. 4.}

			l.	s.	d.	
1. A. D. 1198, Wool per Tod	—	—	0	15	0	Ch. 4. § 14.
2. A. D. 1337-8, Wool the best	—	—	1	8	0	Ch. 5. § 5. Note.
3. A. D. 1339, Wool at	—	—	1	17	8	
			1	12	0	Ch. 5. § 8.
			1	1	0	
4. 1500 ^t Sacks within the County of York, at	—	—	1	10	0	Ch. 5. § 2.
500 Sacks, of Nottingham, at	—	—	1	11	4	
500 Sacks, of Derby, at	—	—	1	4	2	
400 Sacks, of Cumberland and Westmoreland, at	—	—	1	1	0	
VOL. II		H h			500	

		l.	s.	d.
	500 Sacks, of <i>Leicester</i> , at	—	—	—
	100 Sacks, of <i>Rutland</i> , at	—	—	—
	400 Sacks, of <i>Salop</i> , at	—	—	—
^a Ch. 6.	5. <i>A. D.</i> ^u 1353, Wool on a Medium, at	—	—	—
^w Ch. 8. §. 29.	6. (<i>A. D.</i> ^w 1390) when Wool was so cheap, by reason of a Law, which forbid Men to carry it, but to such and such Places, it was sold at	—	—	—
		1	14	0
		1	10	8
		1	19	2
		1	10	4
		0	14	9½
		0	10	0
		0	8	0
		0	15	6
^z Ch. 11. §. 5. Note.	<i>A. D.</i> ^z 1425, Pure Wool, of <i>Leicestershire</i> , at †	—	—	—
§. 24. Note.		0	19	4½
^a Ch. 15.	7. <i>A. D.</i> ^a 1533, Clothing Wool, the best, at	—	—	—
^b Ch. 23. §. 11.	8. <i>A. D.</i> ^b 1581, the ancient Price (as then accounted) the present Price, (<i>viz</i> 1581)	—	—	—
		0	13	4
		1	00	0
		1	2	0
^c Ch. 33. §. 12.	9. <i>A. D.</i> ^c 1622, Wool fallen from	—	—	—
Ch. 34. §. 8.	to under	—	—	—
	<i>viz.</i> to	—	—	—
		1	13	0
		1	00	0
		0	18	0
^d Ch. 37. §. 4. Note.	10. <i>A. D.</i> ^d 1641, <i>August</i> , three Years Wool of <i>Belton</i> and <i>Rippingale</i> , <i>Lincolnshire</i> ,	—	—	—
^e Ch. 39. §. 10. Note.	11. <i>A. D.</i> ^e 1651, Ordinary <i>English</i> Wool at	—	—	—
^f Ch. 56. §. 11.	12. Before ^f the <i>Restoration</i> (1660) Wool of <i>Romney Marsh</i> , commonly, at	—	—	—
^g §. 12.	13. <i>A. D.</i> ^g 1647,	—	—	—
	1648,	—	—	—
^h Ch. 58. §. 10.	14. After ^h the Year 1650, and before the <i>Restoration</i> (1660)	—	—	—
		1	2	6
		3	0	0
ⁱ Ch. 60. §. 2.	15. In; the Height of the Civil War,	—	—	—
		1	17	4
		2	2	0
§. 5.	16. <i>A. D.</i> ^k 1660,	—	—	—
		1	17	0
		2	2	0
Ch. 51. §. 13. Note.	17. <i>A. D.</i> ^l 1670-1,	—	—	—
		1	8	0

* But, *N. B.* exclusive of the *Duty*, which at this Time, always made a Part in the Price; and which I take to have been ^z, of Merchant Strangers, over and above the old Custom of 13s. 4d. 46s. and 8d.; in the whole 3*l.* per Sack; which, the Shilling then weighing 213 Grains ^y, was more than equal to 10 Shillings per Tod, of our present Money. Consequently, Wool, even at this cheap Time, was sold for, in the whole, per Tod, 1*l.* 5s. and 1*l.* and 18s. nearly.

† See §. 6. Note

			l.	s.	d.	
18. A. D. 1677, from	—	—	0	13	0	^m Ch. 56. §. 12.
	to	—	0	15	0	
19. A. D. 1694-6, a Medium Price	—	—	1	8	0	ⁿ Ch. 142.
20. A. D. 1698,	—	—	1	1	0	ⁿ Ch. 2. §. 6.
21. A. D. 1704, in Scotland, from	—	—	1	10	0	^o Ch. 89. §. 20.
	to	—	1	13	4	
22. A. D. 1706, in England,	—	—	0	17	6	^p Ch. 171.
23. A. D. 1707,	—	—	0	16	6	No. 1. §. 1, 2.
24. A. D. 1712,	—	—	0	15	0	
25. A. D. 1713-14.	—	—	0	18	0	^q Ch. 109.
26. A. D. 1717-18,	—	—	from 1	3	0	P. 8.
			to 1	7	0	^r Ch. 171.
27. A. D. 1737-8, 9, 40, 41, 42,			from 0	11	0	No. 1. §. 7, 8.
			to 0	13	0	No. 2.
			and 0	14	0	§. 11, 12, 13.
			from 0	19	6	^s Ch. 171.
			to 1	0	0	No. 5. 6.
			and 1	1	0	
28. A. D. 1743,	—	—				^t Ch. 171.
						No. 5.
29. A. D. 1753, Wool and Woolens exported, with their Customs,						^u Ch. 6.
			£ 737,021	16	4	
30. A. D. 1564, the Woollen Trade from England to Antwerp singly						^w Ch. 20.
at the lowest reckoning—£ 750,000. Besides which, there was a Trade						§. 2.
from England to Amsterdam, Hamburgh, Scotland, Ireland; probably, to						^x §. 7.
France; certainly to Sweden and Russia, if not some to the Streights too.						
31. A. D. 1601. The Company of Merchant Adventurers (in Number, about 3500) exported Cloths			l.	s.	d.	^y Ch. 25. §. 4, 5.
to the yearly Value of	—	—	1,000,000	00	00	
Beyond which, there was a Trade to Russia, Sweden, Scotland, Ireland,						
France, a clandestine Trade to Spain, a considerable one to Turkey, a Trade						
to Barbary, and that of the Merchants of the Stillyard.						
32. A. D. 1612-13. Total			l.	s.	d.	^z Ch. 27. §. 7. Note.
Exports from England	—	—	2,487,435	07	10	
Imports	—	—	2,141,151	10	00	
Balance	—	—	346,283	17	10	

33. A. D.

^a Ch. 34. §. 9.	33. A. D. 1621-2 ^o . Total	l.	s.	d.
	Exports	2,320,436	12	10
	Imports	2,619,315	00	00
	Contra Balance	298,878	07	02

^b Ch. 43. P. S.	34. A. D. 1662-3 ^b . Total			
	Exports	2,022,812	04	00
	Imports	4,016,019	18	00
	Contra Balance	1,993,207	14	00

^c Ch. 49 §. 2. Note.	35. A. D. 1668-9 ^o . Total			
	Exports	2,063,274	19	00
	Imports	4,196,139	17	00
	Contra Balance	2,132,864	18	00

^d Ch. 87. §. 4. Note.	36. A. D. 1699 ^d . Total			
	Exports	6,788,166	17	6

In 1662 and 1668, Woolen Exports could not exceed
per Ann — — — — — } 900,000 00 0

But, in 1699, amounted to 2,932,292 17 6

^e Ch. 88. §. 4	37. A. D. 1703 ^e . Total Exports	6,644,103	00	0
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^f Essay by Mr. Dobbs, p. 72.	38. A. D. 1710 ^f . } Total	6,690,828	15	2 ¹ / ₄
	A. D. 1715 } Exports	7,379,409	03	0

^g Ch. 174. §. 8.	39. A. D. 17 ¹ / ₄ ^g . Woolen Exports	5,403,993	00	0
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	A. D. 17 ³ / ₄ . Woolen Exports	6,288,152	00	0
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	40. A. D. 1737-8. WOOLEN EXPORTS in ONE } YEAR ONLY	4,158,643	17	0
--	--	-----------	----	---

^h §. 27. P. S. Here note the very low Price of Wool, Ann. 1737-8^h, and at the very same Time, the high State of the English Woolen Exportation Trade.
Wool

Wool was now, at the *ancient Price* (as it was esteemed, *Ann.* 1581¹) of ⁱ §. 8. a Mark a Tod, and less. And yet the Woolen Exports, of this Year, amounted to upwards of FOUR MILLIONS Sterling; twice as much as, about the Year 1698, was usually accounted of, by Mr. King and Dr. Davenant MORE, by above a MILLION, than in the great Year 1699^k, certainly; ^k §. 36. and probably, by still more, than in the next great Year of Trade (1703^l) ^l §. 37. MORE, by near as much, than when *England* reaped the Advantage of that calamitous Circumstance, the Plague at *Marseilles*.—Nevertheless—WOOL, not at the old Price, of 1581 (which was 20 and 22 *s.* per Tod) BUT at (what in 1581, was accounted the *ancient Price*) a Mark a Tod, or less; a Price, ancient as Wheat at 8 *d.* the Bushel, the Goose at 4 *d.* and the Hen at 1 *d.* ob.

An untoward Circumstance this, it must be owned, to the *Grassers* and *Farmers*, the *Tenants*! The *Nobility*, *Gentry*, and *Clergy*, their *Landlords*!

And how did *these*, with the rest of the *Landed Interest*, behave under it? Why, hearing extraordinary Complaints, on the Part, and in behalf of the Manufacturers, they were touched with Compassion for them chiefly.

It was natural enough to conclude a sufficient Ground for those Complaints, from that single Circumstance, the *low Price of Wool*. And the Managers also and Advocates (in Appearance at least) for the Manufacturers, had the Art to offer that Circumstance, in Proof that there was a *real Decay* in the *Woolen Exportation Trade* (than which, we have seen, nothing was less true). Thus, the *British Woolen Manufacturers*, to the Members of *Parliament*, *Ann.* 1737^m, ‘Your Honours are fully apprized even by ^m Ch. 132. ‘your Tenants, that the Effects of a declining Trade are now generally felt; ^{§. 3.} ‘and no general Cause can be ascribed, but the great Decay of our ‘*Woolen Exportation Trade*.’

The Author of *Observations on British Wool &c.* 1738, (p. 53.) ‘Our ‘Trade is considerably decreased—And even the *Landholder* finds the In- ‘convenience thereof, by the present low Price of Wool..

Again, the Author of an *Essay on the Causes of the Decline of foreign Essay, &c.* Trade, &c. (begun in the Year 1739, printed 1744) ‘That the foreign ^{p. 2.} Trade of *Britain* declines, will appear by the following Symptoms, viz.

‘THE LOW PRICE OF WOOL, &c. I appeal (says heⁿ) to the Experience of ⁿ Page 6 ‘every honest Man conversant in Trade, whether it does not decline, ‘Year after Year; especially OUR WOOLEN TRADE.

‘They

° Page 15.

‘ They ° who furnish *all the World* with WOOL, have the *least* of the manufacturing of it among themselves.

p Page 38.

‘ The declining Demand for Woolen Goods abroad, falls the Price of WOOL at home.’

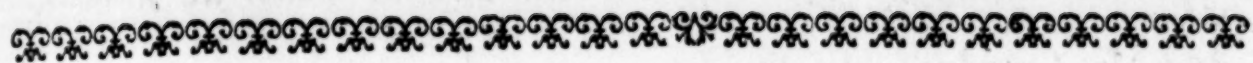
q Ch. 141:
§. 15.

‘ Mr. WEBBER °, ‘ The present *low Price of Wool* shews the great Decay of our Trade.—Hence it is evident, that we have not one THIRD PART of the Quantity of Goods carried to *foreign Markets*, which we formerly had.’

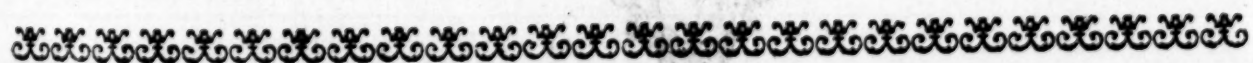
And Mr. *Lowndes* intitles his Scheme, printed 1745. by Order of the House of Commons, *A Scheme—*

‘ In order to RE-ESTABLISH the Woolen Manufacture of *England*.’





A D D I T I O N S.



ADDITION

ADDITION

A D D I T I O N S.

C H A P. CLXXVII.

HISPANIA ILLUSTRATA, * &c. printed 1703.

Containing,

LETTERS from several English Ambassadors in SPAIN, to Lord Arlington
and other Ministers at London, in the Reign of K. CHARLES II.

From

1. Lord SANDWICH's Discourse (1667) of the Advantages to be had in SPAIN.

I Have made the best Inquiry I can into the *Segovia Wools*, and judge it very difficult, if not impossible, to enjoy them by way of *Monopoly*^a; for ^{a Chap. 191.} there requires so great a Stock of Money to manage it, as may be estimated ^{§. 21.} at two Millions of Pieces of Eight; and then the Forbearance of the Money where they sell again, will be considerable, and the Dependance on OTHER NATIONS for Leave to vend it, (*for but a small Quantity of it is vended in ENGLAND,*) and at this present the *Spaniards* have Liberty to sell *their Wool* to whom they please; and I don't know how easily they can be reduced into a *Monopoly*.—Nevertheless, I have heard there is some Design of reducing the selling of Wool into the King of *Spain's* own Hands; and when that is once settled, perhaps some Advantage may be gotten for the managing such a Proportion of *this Wool*, as is for our Interest.

* This Book having escaped us in our former Edition, an Extract from it is therefore placed first in these *Additions*; and the rather, because a Person, who stiled himself *W. Temple of Trowbridge, Gent.* attempting to refute a principal Argument in *Memoirs of Wool*, not only charged the Author with what he was pleas'd to call a *Forgery*, but gave it to be understood, that he had from *this very Tract* a clear Authority for so doing.

The imputed Forgery is Ch. 172. of this Work; and particularly, for what Part of it relates to the Price of several SPANISH WOOLS at *Amsterdam*, about the latter End of *July, 1719*. To disprove which, it was pretended to confront the same with an Account of like Nature from SPAIN, by *Sr W. Godolphin*, in 1667.

And though Ch. 172. being taken from an Author of undoubted Credit, will speak sufficiently for itself, yet it may not be amiss to observe occasionally *Mr. Temple's FRAUD*, in Hopes to avoid a Truth he was unwilling to admit, because of its making, as conceived, against himself; or at least against a certain Class of Persons, whom he thought proper to espouse with uncommon Warmth.

VOL. II.

I i

From

From

Page 106.

2. *A Discourse by Sir W. Godolphin, (1667) touching the WOOLS OF SPAIN.*

As for the *Wools*, because it was Part of our Instructions, to gain the best Information I could, whether it were a practicable Design to get for *England* the sole Merchandize of them, and that they might not be vended to any other Nation, (in Exchange whereof we were instructed to offer unto *Spain* the sole Merchandize of our Tin) I made the best Inquiry I could into the Nature and Traffic of this Commodity, both at *Madrid* and *Bilboa*; and took a Journey Express to *Segovia*, for my better Information; and upon the whole Matter I judge * * * * *

3. There is nothing of this Nature wherein the *Spaniards* are more curious than in the Manner of feeding their Sheep; which contributeth much to the well Growth and Fineness of their Fleece. The Owners of them do therefore, against the Winter Season, send them to the warmer Climate of *Eftremadura*; from whence, in the Month of *May*, they are brought to *Segovia*, and there shorn; and from thence driven to the cold Mountains

^b Chap. 184. of *Leon*^b, where they feed all the Summer long. †

§. 15.

4. The *Wools of Spain* * are commonly known by the Names of *Segovia*, *Soria*, and *Andalusia* ||. *SEGOVIA* is the finest, and is sold (neither sorted nor washed, but just as it comes off the Sheep's Back) at 70 Reales Vellon, the Arroba: An Arroba is 25 Pounds Weight: *Soria* Wools are next in Fineness, and in like Manner are sold at 50 Reales Vellon, the Arroba. *Andalusia* Wools are the worst and coarsest, and are in like Manner sold at 20 Reales the Arroba.

5. He that buys the *Segovia* and *Soria* Wools at the first Hand, does wash them, and then divides them into a *first*, *second*, and *third* Sort.

† Here he repeats *verbatim* what is given before (§. 1.) as from Lord *Sandwich*.

^c See Chap.

178. §. 14.

† That this cannot be the general Usage with all Sheep in *Spain*, common Sense must tell us. And therefore we are to understand that they are select Flocks, perhaps of a certain Kind and Age, which under this Management produce what are properly, *i.e. technically* and in a mercantile Sense, not only called *Spanish Wools*, but emphatically such, here (§. 7.) by the Name of *SEGOVIA CLOTH WOOLS*; and by Mr. *Savary*^d, *Segovianas Leonifas*, because "the Sheep are fed

^d Chap. 152.

§. 11.

"upon the Mountains of *Leon*, which are excellent Pasturage."

* That is, *Spanish Wools*, in the Sense before noted.

|| But see them distinguished by various other Names, (Ch. 159, 172, 182. §. 5.)

6. The

6. The Wool being thus divided, every Sort is put up by itself in Canvas Bags that will hold from seven and a half Arrobas to eight*, and from thence carried to the several Ports to be shipped off.

7. Being in the Ports, every Bag of 200 lb. Weight in Sortment (SEGOVIA CLOTH WOOL) is sold at from 1350 to 1400 Reales Vellon.

8. The Sortment of *Segovia* is

Of the <i>finest</i> 3	} Bags. †
Of the <i>second</i> 2	
Of the <i>third</i> 1	

* What we understand here is, that the Wool and Bags together, are to be 200 lb. Weight, of which the Wool not less than seven and a half Arrobas. (See §. 7.)

† According to Mr. *Savary**, the Sortment of *Spanish Wool*, at *Bilboa*, is thus: In a Pile of 15 Bales, there are 12 *Prime*, 2 *Second*, and 1 *Tierce*. But though this Account of Sir *W. Godolphin* in 1667, and that of Mr. *Savary*, above 50 Years later, do not accord in the Sortment; yet do they tally with some Exactness, in the Condition of SPANISH WOOL, as it comes off the Sheep's Back; which both agree is absolutely in all its Dirt; UNWASH'D. And, as Mr. *Savary* makes the Waste in washing to be from 17 Arrobas^f to 8, so Sir *W. Godolphin* gave the Price of an Arroba, as it came off the Sheep's Back, at 70 Reales Vellon;—when wash'd, at from 168 to 175; that is, at from 1350 to 1400 Reales Vellon for 8 Arrobas, or the Bag, of 200 lb. which is much in the same Proportion; Allowance being made for the Labour in washing. See Chap. 152. §. 12.

Here then was Mr. *Temple's* FRAUD, ist, in endeavouring to pass it upon the Public, that Wool in *Spain*, coming off the Sheep's Back in all its Dirt, without being previously washed, was just in the same Condition with Wool in *England*, bought in the Fleece from the Farmer, viz. clean wash'd, as it could be, before shearing; whereas the Difference is, what hath been mentioned, and that a very considerable one.

2dly, Mr. *T.* would have had it believed that *Spanish Wool* sold in Sortment, is like the selling of some *English Wool* sorted, or, as he calls it, thrown into various Sorts, at very different Prices.—And that the Prices mentioned, both by Sir *W. Godolphin*, and Mr. *Savary*, of *Spanish Wool*, are only of the *Prime* alone; whereas, the contrary is expressly mention'd by both. (See §. 9. of this Chap. and *Memoirs of Wool*, Chap. 152. §. 12.)

3dly, Not distinguishing between the FINE WOOLS of *Spain*, and those called *common*, or *ordinary*, he endeavour'd to put upon his Reader the Price of the latter for the former.

That the Prices of *Spanish Wool* had varied between 1667 and 1719, is nothing strange; Such Variations at several Times, appear sufficiently in *Memoirs of Wool*; and particularly, in the Year 1676, it was but about half so dear in *England*, as it had been 16 Years before. Nor is it altogether improbable that in *Spain*, the Proportions in Sortment had been alter'd.—But if not, Mr. *Savary* was likely to have informed himself in that and other Particulars, with more Exactness than Sir *W. Godolphin's* Station and Leisure would permit him to do. See Chap. 60. §. 5.

However, allowing Mr. *T.* his Liberty of not giving Mr. *Savary* Credit, preferably to Sir *W. Godolphin*, yet will not that excuse his suppressing Sir *W's* Testimony, of the Difference (from 70 to 175 Vellons the Arroba) between those Wools absolutely in their Dirt, as they came off the Sheep's Back, and as commonly washed for Sale. Nor could he, without a further Intention of FRAUD, speak of those Wools in Sortment, as if they had been only the *Prime*, with the *Second* and *Tierce* thrown out; because he had the contrary evidently before his Eyes, (§. 6, 7, 8, 9.) And moreover, he might have learned (*Memoirs of Wool*, Chap. 152. §. 8, 9, 10.) from Mr. *Savary*, that the washing of these Wools for Sale by the Sorter or Stapler, and the scouring of them for Use by the Manufacturer, are two different Operations; that though the Waste by the former was accounted 53 per Cent. yet was there by the latter a farther Waste of 20 Pounds;—that before washing, it is termed Wool in its Dirt; before scouring, WOOL in its Grease; which last is the Condition in which WOOL is sold by the Farmer in *England*.

9. When the Buyer will have only the best of these Sorts, there is an Increase of 20 *per Cent.* [or he pays the Price of 120 *l.* for only 100] because the *second*, and the *third Sort*, sell for *so much less*.

10. It is judged that these Wools are taken off in the following Manner, *viz.*

	Bags.
Holland, Hamburg, and the adjacent Countries,	22000
England, from 2000 * to — — —	7000
France, from 6000 to — — —	7000
Venice, and the Ports of Italy. — — —	3000
Africa, Tunis, Algiers, &c. — — —	1000 †

11. A Doblón goes for 74 Reales Vellón. The intrinsic Value of a Piece of Eight is 4 *s.* 4 *d.* A Doblón is four Pieces of Eight, *viz.* 17 *s.* 4 *d.*

From

12. Sir William Godolphin ‡ (1679) to Mr. Secretary Coventry.

“ If the King would make himself Master of all the Wools in *Spain*,
 “ or grant the sole Privilege of exporting the same out of these Realms to
 “ any one Person or Company, with Obligation of selling them only to the
 “ *English*, who would undertake to buy them all for seven or more Years,
 “ it would be Matter of very great Advantage to his Majesty, and no Pre-
 “ judice to the Owners of the Wool; for these latter should have the
 “ highest Price that hath been paid for them these 30 Years.”

‡ Chap. 39.
 §. 10.

13. The Matter of this Proposition hath been an old ¹ Pretension, *formerly* || solicited, and *now again* renewed by me; because I find of late, a greater Likelihood than ever, of his *Catholic Majesty's* taking *all the Spanish Wools* into his own Hands; from which if *England* could receive it, as the

* It is highly probable that 2000 was much nearer than 7000, to the Medium Quantity taken off by *England* at this Time; because so long after the Year 1667, as 1709, 10, 11, there was in those three Years but 13986 Bags of *Spanish Wool* imported; and in 1712, 13, 14, no more than 20388; which last was not 7000 *per Ann.* † Although before the Year 1714, the *English* had made a considerable Progress; in the Art of manufacturing *fine Cloths* from *Spanish Wool* only; which at this Time of Sir *W. Godolphin's* writing, *viz.* in 1667, we shall see *THEY* knew not *it*.

‡ See Chap.
 109.

‡ Chap. 178.
 §. 16.

‡ Chap. 191.
 §. 39.

† Observe hence too, how far *England* was from having such an Ascendency in the Woollen Trade, at this Time, beyond *France*, and many other Nations, as hath been frequently represented.

‡ Being an Extract from some Proposals by him, at *Madrid*, to *Don John* of *Austria*, then Prime Minister to the King of *Spain*, as Conditions of Advantage to the State of *England*, in Case of its furnishing his *Catholic Majesty* with a certain Number of Troops required for his Service in *Flanders*.

|| In the Year 1667. (See §. 2.)

sole

sole Merchant, and consequently other Nations depend on us for the Distribution thereof to them, (*being a Commodity absolutely necessary * to ALL that deal in Woolen Manufactures*) it would be a great Advantage to our cloathing Trade, and always ready Money to such as could manage the same.

C H A P. CLXXVIII.

Theory and Practice of Commerce, &c.

By DON GERONYMO DE USTARIZ, 1742.

1. *T*HE first Copies of this Work, by Don Antonio de Ustareiz, printed in Spain (1724) the Government there *thought proper mostly to destroy, although the Author was at the same Time caressed and rewarded. But in 1742, upon better Consideration, his Son, Don Geronymo, was directed to reprint it; which, by Command of his Royal Highness Frederic late Prince of Wales, being translated into English, was so published at London, 1751, in two Volumes, Octavo.*

2. *It informs us, that Trade, and Manufacturies of Silk, and Wool, had formerly been very flourishing in Spain.—That through wrong Policies they had gone into Decay; yet not without a Possibility of being restored by a Reverse of Measures; towards which some Steps having been then (1724) already taken, there was an Appearance of Success.*

3. *And notwithstanding 'tis a common Opinion, that Trade, and especially Manufacture, are wholly repugnant to the Genius of Spaniards; and that, besides, their Mines in America had both drawn off their useful working Hands, and also made them to rely entirely on Returns thence in Gold and Silver, for a Supply of all their Wants: Yet this Writer is otherwise persuaded; and that the dispeopling of their Country had been solely owing to a passive losing Trade, and a Decay of their Manufacturies, by Reason that their Laws and Rules of Commerce had not been put upon the new*

* An Hyperbole this, but much more true of the *fine Spanish* than any *English Wools* whatever. (See Chap. 179. §. 7, 9.) However, it seems as if the *English* had taken this Phrase from *Spain*; applying it, most improperly, to their own Wool.

Model of *France, England, and Holland*; which, though once upon the same Footing with them, yet having since refined their Policies, while *Spain* persisted in its old Course and Customs, those former had risen much upon the Ruins of the latter.

4. And the great Oversight of *Spanish Government* he represents to have been, chiefly, certain Duties upon their Home Manufactures, called the *Alcavala*, and *Ciento's*, with an high Custom of 15 *per Cent.* upon the same exported.

5. The *Alcavala* is a Duty of 10 *per Cent.* upon the first, and every future Sale, Truck or Barter, paid by the Vender. The *Quatro unos por Ciento*, are four several Taxes, of 1 *per Cent.* laid at different Times, charged and raised in the same Manner as the *Alcavala*.—Adding to all which 15 *per Cent.* Custom, on Exportation, 'tis very conceivable what this Writer says, *viz.* “That the Prices of their Manufactures were raised, and the Vent of
“ them spoiled both at Home and Abroad; the Kingdom in Consequence
“ greatly depopulated, and so far impoverished, that all the rich Mines in
“ *America*, with the spare Fruits and other Produce of *Old Spain*, were
“ scarcely sufficient to pay for the Manufactures and Commodities which
“ other Nations imported thither.” And this Breach he thinks, not irrationally, capable of being repaired, in a great Measure at least, by the simple, very easy Process, of abating in the *Alcavala* and *Ciento's*, and by a wise Regulation of their *Custom-House Duties*, agreeable to the Practice of other trading Nations.

6. From the Work itself (after this Account of it, for what relates to our Subject) are given the following Extracts, as they lie dispersed, without attempting a particular Connexion; which, unless by transcribing too great a Part thereof, is found to be impossible. Besides, the Volumes being in many Hands, and not very large, 'tis therefore the less necessary.

From

7. Father Villareal, his Approbation prefixed.

In this Science (*civil Policy*) few are the Axioms that have the Credit of being infallible; under which Head, as observed of *Spain*, so perhaps it is true of most other Countries, “that no Proposal can be offered, which is not
“ treated with Contempt, before it is taken into Consideration.” *

8. The

* How rare soever may be the Infallibility of such Axioms; how liberal of Contempt Persons, and sparing of their Consideration towards any Proposals of *civil Policy*; yet we venture to pronounce,

8. The principal Foundation of the Felicity of a Kingdom is, imposing the *bighest Duties* that are *practicable*, upon all Materials (serviceable to the Manufactories) exported. And the easy Execution of this Measure is a great Recommendation to it.

THEORY and PRACTICE, &c.

Vol. I. p. 3.

9. The Ruin of the Manufactures in *Spain* was, excessive Taxes and Customs, paid by the *Makers* and *Venders*, AS SUCH. *

10. The *English Woolen Manufactures* pay no Duty on Exportation: The *French* but 1 per Cent. and for fine Cloths in *Languedoc* exported, have a Premium. Page 8, 9.

11. There are 3 or 400 *Silk* and WOOLEN LOOMS in *Seville*, where formerly were SIXTEEN THOUSAND, and for MANY YEARS. 24.

12. In *Holland* and *Genoa* are good Manufactures of *Silk* and WOOL, not 30. of their own Growth.

13. There are now [1724] in the Kingdom of *Spain* about TEN THOUSAND Looms for *Silk*, and WOOL, viz. Two Thousand of the former, and EIGHT THOUSAND of the latter †, for the Fabric of middling coarse Cloths, 32.
Bays,

pronounce, that provided 'tis considered at all, the following Axiom (§. 8.) will be found so far infallible, that, in these Words, "*bighest Duties practicable*," is the most significant Intention, and in the *Thing itself*, the utmost Energy towards making good those Purposes intended, that any Measure is capable of. And what further Recommendation can be given, than to say (which is also indisputably true) that it is not only *practicable*, but *easy of Execution*?

* 'Twas this false Policy which first "removed the Manufacturies of *Flanders* into *Brabant*; ¹ See Memoirs of the "and from that Province into those beyond the *Maese*, and into *England*." ¹ But these were very different from those Taxes and Customs so frequently exclaimed against, as Grievances to *Dutch Trade* Trade in *Britain*; where are no special Impositions; only general ones, upon Subjects at large, p. 8. for their Protection in common; except that of the *Land-Tax*, which is an extraordinary Levy ^m Chap. 184. upon Land-owners. And which Consideration, besides the Inequality of it in another Regard, if §. 3. not a sufficient Reason for annihilating the same, seems a very just and good one for *always* making it low, as conveniently may be, without any Imputation of Partiality towards those who pay it.

† And these he proposed to be augmented to SEVENTY THOUSAND, in the same Proportion of $\frac{1}{2}$ for *Silk*, and $\frac{1}{4}$ for WOOLEN MANUFACTURE; the Produce of which he estimates at 53 Millions of Dollars, viz. 33 for the Consumption of *Spain*, and 20 for the *Spanish West Indies*, instead of what go thither from *Europe* [manufactured, not in *Spain*, but *England*, *France*, *Holland*, &c.] And these to the *West Indies* he proposes to be Silks and FINE CLOTHS ONLY: For (says he) "The Inhabitants of *New Spain* have NO OCCASION for ORDINARY CLOTHS, "having THEM in PLENTY FROM THEIR OWN FABRICS." Nay, adds he, "besides "supplying *Spain* and the *Indies*, there will be Silks and FINE CLOTHS for Exportation to other "Kingdoms and Countries, especially the North of *Europe*.—So will be accomplished the grand "Point, of *selling more than we buy*; which would prevent the Extraction of OURS, and bring "in FOREIGN MONEY. And the Constitution of this Kingdom renders ALL THIS VERY
"PRACTICABLE."

Bays, Serges, Camlets, Droguets, &c. These upon a Medium make to the Value of 700 Dollars, each, *per Ann.*

Page 43, 44.

14. The Flocks which every Winter pass by *Estremadura* only from the Mountains, are found to be FOUR MILLIONS. About 100 Persons are employed to take Care of 10,000 ; a few more, or less, as the Pastures lie together, or at a Distance ; which makes the Number of SHEPHERDS to be TWENTY THOUSAND ; and as we are assured that the Flocks which stay behind, and go not to *Estremadura*, are still more, the Number of SHEPHERDS employed in the Care of both, will then exceed FORTY THOUSAND. But such as are conversant with these Parts, assure us, that the Flocks are at this Time considerably augmented. And this is confirmed by the high Price of Herbage in *Estremadura*.

67.

15. The curious Woolen Manufactures, so various and flourishing in *England*, were not introduced into that Country, till the Reign of *Q. Elizabeth*. Notwithstanding they had very good Wool, it was sold to the *Flemings* . .

° Chap. 188.
§. 14. Chap.
189. §. 5, 6.
Note.
63.

16. In 1704, the *English* were said † to make of *Spanish Wool* 30,000 Cloths.

17. In *SPAIN* we have already begun, and with some Rays of Success, manufacturing of Wool, &c. The great Advantage of our Materials in Number and Quality, is notorious.

95.

18. By the Tariff of 1667, the *French King* ordered 30 *French Yards* of *Spanish Cloth* imported, to pay 100 *Livres* ; and 25 *French Yards*, of *Holland*, or *England*, to pay 80 *Livres* ; while on FINE FRENCH CLOTHS exported to

“ PRACTICABLE.” N. B. He computes the whole Number of People in Spain to be 7,500,000, and the Expence of each in Woolens, at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ Dollars ; which is about 1 l. 0 s. 3 d. per Head, upon an Average. — HENCE JUDGE TO HOW LARGE A VALUE MUST BE THE ANNUAL HOME CONSUMPTION of WOOLEN MANUFACTURE in G. BRITAIN !ⁿ — Also, from what follows (§. 16.) how much the *English Manufacture* of fine Cloth depends on Spain for the Material. — Likewise, from what we have already seen, and shall see further from this and other Authors, how little our Trade abroad for middling and coarse Drapery stands upon the Incapacity of other Nations (Old and New Spain especially) to supply themselves, whenever they shall be resolved therein. — Consequently, how groundless are the common Pretensions about British and Irish Wool !

ⁿ Chap. 194.
§. 8, 9, 10.

† Viz. By an *English* Author, intitled, “ The Interest of *England* ill understood by the present “ War (1704.)” wherein he mentions (Vol. 2. p. 142) to have been well affected to the Crowns of *France* and *Spain* ; and with whom he seems THEREFORE to have been chiefly conversant ; says indeed, that he had been able to meet with but very few *English* Writers on Trade, and those chiefly in the *English* Language, which we suppose he did not understand. — Besides, *English* Books being for the most Part deem’d heretical in *Spain*, he perhaps judg’d it not safe to be found dabbling in them upon any Subject.

Spain,

Spain, the Duty continued at $7 \frac{1}{2}$ Reales; which, from their fine Quality, is only *Half per Cent.* †

19. By the Tariff of 1699, the Duties upon Cloths from *Holland* to *France*, were reduc'd from 80 to 55 Livres. But the 100 Livres on *Spanish Cloth* still continued; at the same Time that 30 *French Yards* of fine *Carcass* Page 96. one Cloth, which is as good, or better than that of *Segovia*, are imported into *Spain* by our Tariff of 1709, on Payment of 80 Reales only,—so that our Cloths pay at the Rate of 28 *per Cent.* theirs, in *Spain*, but $4 \frac{1}{2}$ Reales *per Cent.* when equal in Quality and Measure; excepting those of *Alby* and *Sedan*, which are much finer and more valuable, and on that Account pay something more at their Importation into *Spain*.

20. In 1703, since the late Union between the Crowns of *France* and *Spain*, there had been set up in *France*, Manufactories of BAYS, PERPETS, and SERGES, calculated for the Commerce of *Spain* and *America*, in Imitation of those made in *ENGLAND*, and in equal Perfection. 101.

21. Among the Customs of *FRANCE* on Materials, by the Tariff of 1664: 103. A Quintal of Wool imported should pay 10 Reales, and 75, exported. And by an Arret of *March* 1688, his Most Christian Majesty taking it into Consideration that the VAST EXPORTATION OF WOOL TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES was a great Prejudice to the Manufactories of the Kingdom, laid A DUTY of 100 Reales upon every Quintal exported, while the small Duty of 10 Reales upon its Importation was continued.

22. By an Arret *April* 7, 1714, his Christian Majesty, desirous that the Province of *Languedoc* be well supplied with Wool, prohibited the buying up of Wool in the said Province to send abroad *, under Pain of Confiscation, and a Fine of 1000 Dollars.

VOL. II.

K k

23. A Statute

† One Part of *Spanish Policy*, in suffering imported Manufactures at a low Duty, while not only *France*, but they themselves, laid a high one on their own, seems to have been an imagined Benefit, from Cheapness, as to the Home Consumption of *Spain*, (for thus much hath been intimated by our Author) whereas the Mistake proved to be, as he hath represented. (See §. 5.)

* There is no judging of this Arret precisely, whether it was to be perpetual, or only temporary: Nor is it said, whether it was to restrain only Wool grown in the Province from being carried abroad, or that also which was imported thither.—Howsoever that was, the Prohibition could not affect Land-owners of *Languedoc*, in like Manner as the same Policy does those of *England*; a Chap. 167. BECAUSE, as VAST QUANTITIES OF ALL KINDS OF WOOL b Chap. 154. are continually imported to that Province, from *Spain*, *Constantinople*, *Salle*, *Algier*, and other Parts of *Barbary*, &c. so the certain Consequence would be, that in Case the Wool of *Languedoc* should by any artificial Means be under the Market Price of other Provinces in *France*, or indeed any Part of *Europe*, THOSE FOREIGN WOOLS would be immediately consigned to some other Ports c for a better Market; by §. 2. which

23. *A Statute of SPAIN, August, 14, 1551.*

199. We ordain that always, and at any Time that any Merchants or Persons,
 200. whether Natives of these Kingdoms, or Foreigners, shall have bought or
 shall buy any Wool in our Kingdoms to export it abroad, and any Subject of
 our Kingdom shall desire a Moiety of the said Wool, our Justices shall
 cause it to be given them in the Manner, at the Price, and under the
 Conditions, the said Merchants shall have bought, or shall buy it; the said
 Justices having first received undoubted Securities, &c. that the said Wool
 † shall be manufactured in these Kingdoms, &c.

246. 24. His Majesty resolved that all his Troops, even his own Guards, be
 cloathed with the Manufactures of his own Kingdom, and issued an Ordi-
 nance for that End, *October 20, 1719.* And in 1724, by another, ordered
 so much Cloth of the new Fabric of *Guadalaxara* (belonging to the Go-
 249. vernment) to be delivered to every Officer, as was sufficient. By this
 Means effectual Care is taken to prevent the Wear of foreign Cloths, and to
 have a ready Vent for those of *Guadalaxara.*

250. 25. As to the Cloth, &c. of the Body Guards, such Care has been taken
 that only *Spanish Goods* have been used for some Years past. The same
 Care has been taken for the rest of the Infantry, Horse, and Dragoons. An
 Overseer and Officers are to provide and purchase the Cloths, &c. This
 Method is thought to be well calculated to promote the *Spanish Manufac-*
tures.

251. 26. *As good Cloths* are made at *Madrid* of the Manufactures of this
 Kingdom, as *can be desired.*

252. 27. As there is *great Plenty of Cloth* fit for the marching Regiments, and
 many Towns and private Clothiers come to petition to furnish the Soldiers;
 so in a few Months there would easily be found sufficient to cloath 200,000
 Men.

which in course the *Wools of Languedoc* would rise to their natural Value again. And thus ad-
 mitting this Arret to be still in Force, the *Landed Interest of Languedoc* is not hurt by it in the
 Sale of their Wool; at most not so considerably, to occasion Runnage, or to give any great
 Cause for Complaint.

† At the Time of this *Statute*, we may imagine the *Woolen Manufacturies of Spain* to have
 been in their flourishing State, or in some Degree at least; yet did not this Edict, although the
 best *Wools* of that Kingdom are truly singular in their Qualities, beyond all others in *Europe*,
 give the Workers an absolute, or indeed any Thing like a *Monopoly* against the Growers of it.
 Nor is it any where charged to the *Wants* of such Policy, but to quite other Reasons, that those
 Manufacturies failed there, so far as they did.

28. By Proclamation (1723) all Civil Officers, &c. are enjoyn'd to dress
in *Black*. From which Order ensues great Advantage to the Cloth, and
other Commodities in *Spain*, where, in many Places, BLACK CLOTHS and
STUFFS are *manufactured*.

29. In the Town of *Olmeda* are 26 Looms, annually manufacturing 332.
50,000 Yards of CLOTH, resembling that which comes from *France*;
whence the Looms had been imported. The Undertaker (*J. Groynecbe*)
hath also set up six other Looms for the Fabric of Droguets and Scarlets,
such as those of *Valdemero* (See §. 32.) in which are employ'd many Persons
of both Sexes, communicating these Arts to the Natives of *Spain*: Also,
at a new Village (*Baxtan*) built entirely by the same Undertaker, are several
more Fabrics begun.

30. There have been Improvements of the same Kind in the City of 337.
Valadolid; which proposed an Addition to their present Manufactories, of
FIFTY LOOMS ANNUALLY, for TWENTY SUCCESSIVE YEARS, in each of
their present Fabrics of *Gold, Silver, Silk, and Wool*, upon Conditions,
which his Majesty granted, *Feb. 14, 1719*.

31. In the *grand Fabric* of FINE CLOTHS at *Guadalaxara*, one great 340.
Point has been obtained, that many of the good Workmen are SPANIARDS;
and some who have been bred up therein, have dispersed into other Parts of
the Kingdom. And it has been found by Experience in *Guadalaxara*, and 341.
other Parts, that the *Spanish Women*, and even the very young Girls, SPIN
WOOL *quicker and better* than even the Mistresses of foreign Families that
instructed them, and were brought over for that Purpose.

32. By Encouragement given to the Fabric of CLOTHS at *Valdemero*, WE
have also gain'd the Point of manufacturing them in that Town, *as fine* as
those of *England*, and of good Colours and Mixtures.

C H A P. CLXXIX.

Theory and Practice of Commerce.

Vol. II.

By DON GERONYMO DE USTARIZ.

81.

I. Do not propose at this Time to prohibit the Introduction and wearing of *Cloths* and other woven commodities of Wool, &c. manufactured abroad; notwithstanding I am persuaded there would be NO WANT OF THEM either in *these Kingdoms* or in the *Indies*, since WE have in *Spain* both the MATERIALS and SKILL to *work them up*. For that seems to me the best Time to prohibit FINE CLOTHS, when the Fabric shall be improved to the Degree of modern Perfection, which is so much desired. And as it is not so now *, the fine Cloths that come from abroad may serve to instruct our People, and inspire them with Emulation.

146.

2. Other States attentive to the Preservation of their own Materials, not content with charging heavy Duties upon the Exportation of them, proceed to an absolute Prohibition of them.—Such is the Policy of the *English*, under Pain of Death ^b.

^b Chap. 191.

§. 28.

147.

3. In the Statutes and Ordinances of our own Monarchs, we find prohibited the Exportation of *coarse low priced Wool*.

148.

4. His Majesty might also prohibit the Exportation of *fine Wool*.—But I do not recommend it at this Time, as we have not yet a sufficient Number of Hands to work up a Moiety of it; and if the Proprietors could not dispose of it, either at Home or Abroad, they would sustain a great loss, and we should endanger a Reduction of the Flocks.

149.

5. So long as there are these Motives to decline an absolute Prohibition on Wool, it will methinks be highly proper to charge it with all the Duties ordinary, and extraordinary, without ever consenting to any Indulgence or Abatement whatsoever.

150.

6. It would be a seasonable Relief, to abolish the Taxes upon Flocks, and replace it by a small additional Duty upon *Wool exported*.

7. It is calculated that above Two HUNDRED THOUSAND Arrobas of FINE WOOL is yearly exported; and we cannot be under any Apprehensions

* See §. 16.

that

that Foreigners will not export so much as they now do, since they stand in *great Need of it*, and CANNOT be furnished from ANY OTHER PART OF THE WORLD. For notwithstanding they have very fine Wool in *England*, it is in VERY SMALL QUANTITIES; and the Exportation of it is prohibited ^{151.} under Pain of Death, as hath been already remarked. — Hence they will export out of this Kingdom the usual Quantity of Wool; and the Shepherds find no Disadvantage from it; nor will any other Consequence result from this Measure, than an Advantage to the *Manufacturers of this Kingdom*; because THEY will not be obliged to pay the Duty * that is charged to Foreigners.

8. Some advise a Reduction of the Duties on Wool exported, as injurious to the Shepherds; which is opposite to the Practice of those Nations who best understand and reap most Advantages from Trade †.

9. I rather apprehend it our Interest to advance them to 25 Reales Vellon ^{152.} upon every Arroba of fine washed Wool; which being only an additional Charge of five Reales Vellon for a whole Suit, which generally costs a Thousand, we cannot imagine that either in *Spain, France, England, Holland, Germany*, or elsewhere, a single Person who has the Spirit to dress in *fine Cloth*, will for so trifling an Addition decline to wear it. — They will not leave our Wool on this Account, nor even for an Advance of 25 or 30 per Cent ‡, BECAUSE THEY CANNOT BE SUPPLIED ELSEWHERE. It is the richest Part of their most profitable Manufactories, especially as it is already a very general and established Custom for most of the Princes, Lords, and

* This last is true; but for the rest (§. 6, 7.) we think our Author was so far mistaken, that *fine Spanish Wool* selling already to its full Worth, according to the Quantity of, and Demand for it, the additional Duty he proposed, would have been a Tax, not upon the foreign Consumer, but the native Grower only.

† The noble Spaniard, who has here an Eye chiefly to *England*, builds much upon two common Mistakes, viz. 1. that the Woollen Manufacture first obtained there, under Queen *Elizabeth*, and that it did so by Means of her prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool. Had he known ^a both these to be the Reverse of Truth, and what have been the real Consequences of this last, ever ^a Chap. 188. since it did take Place, he would probably have so far changed his Sentiments, as to have wrote in §. 14. Chap. 189. §. 5, 6. a Manner somewhat different. He would perhaps rather have adopted that Axiom of Father *Vil-* Chap. 190. *larel*, which hath seemingly corrected this Author, he otherwise approved, by extolling the highest ^b §. 14, 15. Duties practicable, on Materials, serviceable to the Manufactories, exported, beyond any other Po- ^b Chap. 178. licy of the Kind whatsoever.

‡ Probably they would not; nevertheless, the Excellency of this Wool having already made §. 8. it dear, as the present Quantity produced will admit of, 'tis not an Advance of Duty, but either a Reduction of the Flocks, or an increased Demand, that will or can make it dearer. The Quantity and Demand remaining as they were, an additional Duty would most certainly fall upon the Flock Masters.

others

others of Distinction and Property *, not only in *Europe*, but also in *Asia*, *Africa* and *America*, to wear CLOTHS and STUFFS made of SPANISH WOOL.

154. 10. Though the Exportation of *low priced Wool* be prohibited by an Ordinance (1699) before mentioned, I have not been fully satisfied, whether it be still in *Force*; † and am under some Doubt of its being our Interest that it should be so at this Time. For as there is a VAST QUANTITY OF IT in some Provinces, it is very improbable that they should be able to consume the whole, till a greater Number of Looms be set on Foot.

183. 11. It is notorious we are under no Temptation to encourage the Importation of Wool, since WE possess it in so GREAT PLENTY AND PERFECTION, that many Parts of *Europe* are supplied with the Overflowings of ours; which, after they have work'd it up into Cloth, they send into *Asia*, *Africa* and *America*.

266. 12. It behoves us more particularly to encourage the Fabrics of *fine Cloths*.

13. As to ORDINARY CLOTHS and STUFFS, there are a GREAT MANY Manufactories of THEM in the Kingdom for OUR OWN Consumption; and we can *easily* make an Addition for the FOREIGN TRADE.

279. 14. We have already a SUFFICIENT NUMBER of Fabrics of *middling*, and ORDINARY CLOTHS, for the HOME CONSUMPTION of *Spain*. And we have Reason to expect an Increase, as well as a Market for them abroad, when we give the Encouragements recommended.

280. 15. As to *fine Cloths*, WE have not yet been able to arrive to the Perfection of *France*, *England*, and *Holland*. For though the Manufactory at *Guadalaxara*, carried on at the Charge and Direction of the King, produces

* In *England*, not only Persons of Distinction and Property wear the *superfine Spanish Cloths*, but innumerable others; and instead of FINE STUFFS, *so called*, from the *English combed Wool*, are chiefly worn, either *Silks*, or printed and painted *Cottons* and *Linens*. Moreover, *Worsted Stockings*, another Branch of the *English Manufacture*, from the best *English combed Wool*, are greatly disused at Home, and in our foreign Plantations and Colonies, by both Sexes, of almost every Rank, for those of either *Silk*, *Cotton*, or *Thread*; which must needs be a Prejudice to the ENGLISH WOOL GROWER.

† He might have been fully satisfied, or rather, he certainly knew, 'twas not in Use; for that GREAT QUANTITIES OF EVERY SORT OF WOOL grown in *Spain*, were commonly exported, to *France* particularly. Nor does it signify, whether the Ordinance he mentions, was in Force or not, since those Kinds of Ordinances, under an *arbitrary Government*, are but *Ways and Means of raising Money* by the Exportation of what they otherwise forbid.——Thus, a few Years since, it was represented to Parliament, that the Exportation of *Silk* from *Italy* was prohibited. And what did that Representation say, was the Consequence of such Prohibition? Not that this *Silk* COULD NOT be procured at any Rate,——but that it came dearer to the *English Merchant*, by about 40 per Cent.

Cloth

Cloth that looks well and serviceable, yet it does not come up to the prime Quality and Worth of Foreign Cloths.—But we may expect they will, if consigned to the Care and Direction of private Persons at their own Risk and Charge.

16. Instead of forming and setting up new Manufactories, 'tis safest to better those we have; especially those of *Segovia*, where for Ages centered the best Fabrics of *Spain*, in great Number, owing to the Ingenuity of her Natives, the PLENTY and GOODNESS of her WOOL, the Conveniency of 281. Water, &c. And accordingly those Cloths were in high Esteem, being the best and finest that were known in ancient Times, 'till Foreigners improved theirs to the prime Quality we find them in *England* and *France*, while *Segovia* running in the OLD CHANNEL, WITHOUT IMPROVEMENT, makes comparatively but a MIDDLING SORT. However, we may expect that as SPAIN always furnishes the FINEST WOOL and best Ingredients for dying, and her People are SUFFICIENTLY CAPABLE and INGENIOUS at IMITATING, we shall be able to possess the SAME ADVANTAGES, IF we settle in *Segovia*, and other Parts, some ABLE SKILFUL WORKMEN.

17. In Respect to the Cities of *Burgois*, *Valencia*, and *Soria*, I think 284. THEM ALSO in Possession of EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE that favours the Manufacture and Vent of FINE CLOTHS.

18. The WOOLEN MANUFACTORIES of *Valadolid* need no further Indul- 285. gences than have been ALREADY granted them.

19. There are other Cities and Towns in CASTILE, well disposed for the Fabric of FINE CLOTHS.

20. Tho' *Non-parells*, *Flannels*, and such other slight Stuffs, are not of curious Workmanship, it would be greatly for the Benefit of this Kingdom to introduce the Fabrics, upon Account of the VAST DEMAND for THEM: Also of *Camlets*, *fine Shalloons*, and *Bays* †, because THESE THREE STUFFS are in great Call, both in *Spain* and the *Indies*; particularly the TWO LAST. 286.

† Here Note, He is under no Apprehensions of the Wools of Spain being improper, or not sufficient for what Stuffs of these Kinds were wanted both in Spain and the Indies. — But this he had observed, to his own Discouragement, and that of others — “Every new Scheme, be it ever so advantageous and reasonable, usually meets with Opposition. EMULATION will easily resist or thwart what ANOTHER has thought of and suggested.”

“With certain Tempers it is a sufficient Inducement, that it was not originally THEIR OWN Plan and Conception; even while in their OWN HEARTS they are convinced by the Arguments that support it.”

C H A P. CLXXX.

Remarks on the Advantages and Disadvantages of France and Great Britain, with Respect to Commerce; said to be wrote by a French Gentleman (belonging to the Court at Versailles) under English Colours, viz. by the fictitious Name of Sir J. Nichols; and which certainly was first published in French (1752) afterwards translated from the 2d Edition into English (1754.)

Page 77.

1. **HOLLAND**, *Flanders*, and **FRANCE** ABOVE ALL, our most formidable Rival in OUR MANUFACTURES, furnish THEMSELVES from us with Arms against OURSELVES. OUR WOOL is drawn THITHER, and *preferably* employed. OUR PROHIBITION OF EXPORTATION has not ALL THE EFFECT we might expect from it. True it is, we may thank for it the mistaken Policy of prohibiting absolutely the Importation of *Irish Wool* into *England*. What now could *Ireland*, without Manufactures, make of its Wool, but sell it to Foreigners, notwithstanding the Prohibition? We then indeed opened some of our Ports to *Irish Wool*; but THEY had already tasted the Sweets of that Counterband; and all our Guard Vessels since, have vainly endeavoured to interrupt the Course of it.

2. Every Session of Parliament is attended with Complaints from the Manufacturers, of the Diminution of their Trade; *sometimes* founded on the *Dearth of Materials*; and ALWAYS, on the *smuggling over of Wool*; which employed in Foreign Manufactures, lessens by so MUCH † the Demand for THEIRS.

3. On the other Hand, the LAND-OWNERS are ready with THEIR COMPLAINTS of the LOW PRICE at which the Prohibition of exporting it keeps the Wool. They pretend too that THIS LOW PRICE it is, which causes the Counterband carried on of IT.

4. It is difficult to pronounce on this Point, which of the two Sides has most Reason to complain; unless one was to be determined by the general Prejudice which is against the Manufacturers; for I never heard of a Com-

† Observe here, it is said, by so MUCH; not in a THREEFOLD Proportion.

plaint

plaint or Petition from *them* against the LAND-OWNERS, which *was not sovereignly unreasonable* *.

5. It does not appear to me less difficult to find a satisfactory Remedy for an *Evil*, of which there is no dissembling to oneself the *Reality*. But to ascertain the just *Extent of it*, one should be sure of the *Truth* of what is advanced, *viz.* "That the Foreign Nations CANNOT absolutely DO WITHOUT OUR WOOL in the greatest Part of their STUFFS." Should that be really the Case, the carrying our *Wool abroad*, is an irreparable Detriment to *England*. But the *Evil* would not be so considerable, if, as others aver, Foreigners can SUBSTITUTIONALLY † mix the *Spanish Wool* with *their own*, for

* This we understand to be an *Irony*; and on that Supposition, answer, *many Truths are uttered in Jest*; and that it would require an exquisite Memory to point out any Measure espoused under the Name of *Woolen Manufacturers*, not calculated chiefly to distress the *English Grower*, by running down the Price of his *Wool*.

† The Truth we rather take to be, that some of the *finest English combed Wools* are used abroad in the making of STUFFS, SUBSTITUTIONALLY to *Spanish Wools*; and, if preferred in such Work, 'tis chiefly on Account of their COMPARATIVE CHEAPNESS. For we are informed by a modern Writer, the noble Spaniard, *Don Geronymo de Ustariz*, that the greatest Personages of almost all Kingdoms wear, not only CLOTHS, but STUFFS also, made of *Spanish Wool*. And so long since as the Year 1603, 'twas Matter of Complaint in *England*, that, "OF WOOL FROM THE KING OF SPAIN'S DOMINIONS, carried into *France* and *Flanders*, divers FINE STUFFS were made and brought unto US and OTHER NATIONS." Mr. Savary says, "In *France*, the *Wools Prime Segovie*, and *Ville Castin* (besides CLOTHS) are used in making VERY FINE STUFFS, AFTER THE FASHION OF ENGLAND AND HOLLAND. The Sails of *Turcoin* are all of Wool only of *Segovie*, or *England*. In the Department of *Troyes* and *Chalons* (where are made annually 84,000 Pieces of STUFFS) they use for that Purpose, besides others, 530,000 Pounds of SPANISH WOOL. At *Azais* are made Druggs, called *Imperial*, of Silk and the Wool of *Campo* [from *Spain*.] At *Anthoin* (in *France*) are made Etamines, a STUFFS of SPANISH WOOL." Again we read of "*Perpetuanas*, (a STUFF from combed Wool, as made in *England*) finer than those of *England* commonly are, made chiefly for *Spain*, *Italy*, and the *Spanish West-Indies*, at *Montpelier*, *Nismes*, *Castres*, and other Cities of *Low Languedoc*;" where it is not so much as pretended that any *English Wool* is used. Moreover, in *Languedoc* is the ROYAL MANUFACTURE of Mr. *Chamberlin*, making, not for the *Levant*, but only WOOLEN STUFFS, after the FASHION OF ENGLAND, for the SPANISH TRADE; certainly, not of *English*, but most probably of *Spanish*, and perhaps *Asiatic* or *African*, as well as of some *French Wools*. If to this it be objected that, for the making of STUFFS, Wool is to be spun after a different Manner, from what is intended for CLOTH; and to dispose it for such Kind of spinning, it must not be carded, like CLOTH WOOLS, but combed; we answer (without pretending to know the Practice) the first Inventor of *Wool-combing* is said to have been *Blayse*, Bishop of *Sebastia* in *Spain*, so long since, as the third or fourth Century; and certainly, *Columbus*, who was born in 1442, was the Son of a *Genoese Woolcomber* — These, long before the Staple of Wool for combing in *England*, was brought to any Degree of Perfection or Plenty: Whence, and from the several STUFF Manufactures of SPANISH WOOL for Example, follows one of these two Things, *viz.* either *Spain*, with some other southern Parts of *Europe*, and some Parts of *Asia*, produce combing Wool, in our Sense of the Word: Or otherwise, it is practicable for the more fine, but shorter Wools of *Spain*, to bear spinning in a manner fit for the making of STUFFS; and those, superior to what are made of *English combed Wool*; the Hair whereof, though

for want of our finest Sorts; and if besides, THEY have *Qualities of Wool* like to OURS; which I CAN TAKE UPON ME TO SAY WITH CERTAINTY THAT THEY HAVE.

80.

6. As to *France* for Example, I cannot say what Quantity she employs of our Wools, of a superior Quality to those of her own *: But I can positively affirm, that I have seen *there*, some of OUR common Sorts of Wool which the Want of Quantity of their own †, and not of Quality, obliged them to employ. The *English Wools* have yielded to the Smugglers of them a Profit of FIFTY per Cent.; and yet did not exceed in Price, those of the *Wools in France* of the same Quality. This Fact clearly verified explains to us, WHY our Wool is carried THITHER. The Abundance of our Wool at home keeps it at a Price *beneath* the real Value in OUR MARKETS, while the Scarcity of it in *France* holds it up there, a great deal *above* it. ‡

7. Doubtless then there must exist in *France* some powerful Reason of Defect, oppugnant to the Multiplication of that fleecy Species, whereby the Wool is wanting ||; while the Manufacturers of it are in Vigour, and afford good Encouragement to the Workmen—With us [in *England*] WE have the very contrary Inconvenience to complain of. One would think nothing could discourage the Breeding of Sheep. It has proceeded increasing in despite of the most rigorous *Prohibition of exporting their Wool*. The Flesh of them and the Manure with which they fertilize our Lands, must afford a Profit in itself sufficient to the Farmer. Our Manufacturers

longer, is yet considerably broader, i. e. *more coarse*. And if so it be, that no such Use is made in *England*, of SHORT FINE WOOL, *English* or *Spanish* (which also we pretend not to know) yet will not that amount to a negative Proof in this Case—BECAUSE the LONG WOOLS of *England* being purchasable at *Heme*, so very much cheaper, Weight for Weight, than the *fine Spanish Wools imported*, 'twould be much more strange, if the *English* should convert these latter, so very much dearer Wools, into STUFFS, than that some Foreigners should be willing to give a tempting Price for the VASTLY CHEAPER *English combing Wools*, for the sake of using them *substitutionally* to what otherwise must come at a far dearer Rate.

* It does not greatly signify, if *some English* are superior to *some French Wools*, since those of *Spain* are preferable to both.

† It does not follow that there was the Want of Quantity mentioned; since all Manufacturers will use Wool of like Quality, at the same Price, without regarding whence it comes. Moreover, they will, if left to themselves, court foreign Wool, not better than of their own Country, merely for the sake of rendering the latter *more cheap*; just as do those of *England* in regard to *Irish Wool*.

‡ Above what? Not above the Market Price or natural Value there, compared with other Wools; although in *England* it is artificially made, as he truly says, BENEATH the real Value.

|| The same Thing, a Want of Wool, hath been insinuated of *England*, and given as a Reason for coveting the *Wool of Ireland*; while in Truth, as he readily admits, the contrary Inconvenience hath all along been too much the Case, and its Consequences, a main Source of the *Owling-Trade*.

are

are more than ever employed: But they COULD NOT increase in Proportion to the QUANTITY OF WOOL. What then must have become of the 81. Superfluity? It has *more and more fallen the Price of the Wool*, and determined the Course of it MORE VIOLENTLY INTO THE FOREIGN MARKETS.

8. Such in Truth is our present Condition in that Respect. OUR WOOL from its OVER-ABUNDANCE, has been ALWAYS under the Price of that in OTHER COUNTRIES, as may be certified by a Comparison with the *Price Courants* of AMSTERDAM, the greatest Staple in the Universe.

9. Yet since the Peace, the Price of it hath been raised: In 1750 and 1751, the finest long Wool of *Lincolnshire* hath been sold at an Average Price for 16d. * the Pound; which is 20 *per Cent.* more than formerly; and this Enhancement is the true Foundation of the *Manufacturers Complaints*: THEIR PRIVATE INTEREST IS THEIR SOLE AIM, while THEY insist, as THEY have long insisted, in their Request for opening ALL THE PORTS of *England* without Exception, to the *Irish Wool*, in Fleece, or in Yarn: Their Pretext is, that it is the only Expedient for stopping the Export of *Irish Wool* to foreign Countries.

10. The *Land-owners*, who foresee that this increased Importation of the *Irish Wool* into *England*, must yet lower the Price of theirs, oppose to this, that it is in vain to open all the Markets of *England* to *Ireland*, while the Price of Wool shall be still infinitely lower in *England* than in the MARKETS ABROAD: That besides, this Liberty granted to the *Irish small Craft*, 82. to hover all over the Coasts of *England*, will, in so extensive a Career, open to *their Counterband* an infinite Number of *Ways* or *Outlets*, which the Guard Vessels will be less able to shut up, than when those *Wool Vessels* had no free Passage, but in the western Seas of *England*, which had *Biddiford*, *Liverpool* and *Bristol* for Boundaries.

11. SOME there are among these last, who propose the *taking off the Prohibition of the Exportation of English Wool*, and pretend that thereby, that Commodity being brought NEARER to a Level of the COMMON PRICE in the OTHER MARKETS of *Europe*; THEN, a well calculated DUTY on the Exportation, MIGHT HINDER, or at least LESSEN the Carriage of it abroad, MORE EFFECTUALLY, than the PROHIBITION. †

* At *Amsterdam*, or in *France*, we suppose he means: For certainly the *Lincolnshire Grower* hath not been made sensible of such a Price, or any Thing near it.

† Nor does this Writer pretend the contrary. How then? See what follows (§ 13, 14, 15) in which he may be compared to the Person, who, in order to pick a *Man's Pocket*, holds it best to stare full in his Face.

12. Amidst these different Opinions dictated by contrary Interests, I will hazard my disinterested Sentiments.

83.

^m See Chap.
181. §. 1, 2,
3, 4.

13. It is for *England* a very valuable Advantage, that of having ITS WOOL, FORTY, FIFTY and SIXTY^m *per Cent.* CHEAPER than OTHER COUNTRIES, *Quality for Quality.* The Abundance then of its Wool can alone keep it at so low a Price. If the Lowness of the Price occasions its being smuggled over to foreign Markets, it can be *only the superfluous Part of it.* What those Markets extract by this Means from us, I am convinced, is for the most Part, for want of Quantity of their own; which they might procure of *their own Fund and Growth*—This Exportation then *diminishes in other Countries the Multiplication of their Sheep, MORE than it diminishes the Work of our Manufacturers.*

ⁿ See Chap.
181. §. 5. 6.
Ch. 133.
§. 7. Note.

14. We ought then to guard against all the Means which might *en-*
*hance*ⁿ the Price of our Wool; and at the same Time we ought to render the Smuggling of it more difficult; that it may bear the higher Price in foreign Markets—We ought to open *all our Ports* to the *Irish Wool*, raw or wrought. The Point of Time is favourable for it, since our own Wool is risen 20 *per Cent.* Our Guard Vessels, on Station, should at the same Time redouble their Vigilance for preventing any of the *Irish Craft* slipping by them into foreign Parts. I will not answer that this Liberty of Importation will absolutely put an End to the *Irish Counterband*: It was easier to hinder its getting Footing, than it will be to destroy it.

15. As to the general *Prohibition of exporting English Wool*, it ought to be FOR EVER continued; because that alone it is, which can preserve to us the inestimable Benefit of having the best Wool at a MUCH LOWER PRICE than the other Markets of *Europe*, and that of selling the *Superfluity* of it, at the HIGHEST PRICE OF THEIR MARKETS.

C H A P. CLXXXI.

REMARKS on CERTAIN PASSAGES in the last foregoing Chapter; and upon the WHOLE of it.

I.

(Ch. 180. §. 13) "It is for ENGLAND a very valuable Advantage; that
" of having its Wool, FORTY, FIFTY and SIXTY per Cent. CHEAPER
" than OTHER COUNTRIES, Quality for Quality."

1. *HERE is a Fallacy, in putting the WHOLE, for a SMALL PART ONLY; that general Word, ENGLAND, for CERTAIN MONOPOLISTS of the WOOL produced THERE; which if 'T WAS NOT, but imported from ABROAD, then would it be a NATIONAL ADVANTAGE, to have it SO MUCH CHEAPER, as here mentioned, than other manufacturing Countries have. But being grown, as well as wrought, in England, 'tis of no Consequence to the NATION, whether Producers, and Workers, are the same, or different Persons; nor, consequently, if one Part of the Growers should work up their own for Sale, another, sell theirs to Manufacturers for the like End, would that make any Difference. The manufacturing Growers, and purchasing Manufacturers, being alike subject to one common Market, would, ceteris paribus, receive a common Price for their Goods. And, as the same pass through many different Hands: So the last Vender abroad, would buy and sell both, according to their intrinsic Qualities, without any other Respect had, either to Makers, or how they compassed the Material, whether by Growth, at an indefinite Price, or by Purchase, at a certain one. And with regard to PURCHASING MANUFACTURERS, what, the last Vender should give for their Goods, that, MUST determine them not to exceed a certain Price for their Wool. For though all Persons are inclined to buy, so far as they can, at an Undervalue; yet none will continue on a losing Trade, by purchasing at an Over-rate—So that Runnage being once prevented, and Commerce for it on an equal Foot, the Price of Wool in England will be governed by the last Price for Woolen Goods; and not the latter by the former. For though Persons are apt to run away with a Notion, that Traders will sell accordingly as they buy, because they CAN afford it; yet is it a more certain Rule,*
that

that they must buy as they know they shall sell, because they CANNOT afford to do otherwise.

2. *And, therefore, 'tis not necessary by any Means extraordinary to check industriously the Price of English Wool in England; since Trade itself will set Bounds to that; and especially, since England's producing Wool in greater Plenty than some, if not most, or perhaps any other manufacturing Countries, is, of itself, sufficient to make always a comparative Cheapness naturally, of, it may be, 10, 12, or 15 per Cent.; which we do admit, is a valuable Advantage. But to talk of its being either laudable in itself, or beneficial to the Nation, to have ENGLISH WOOL, FORTY, FIFTY, and SIXTY per Cent. under Par, is countenancing a most enormous Desire to take from English Growers ONE HALF of their Property for NOTHING.* A Doctrine like this, might probably go down well enough with some Persons of a Mother Kingdom, towards its Provinces, Colonies, or foreign Plantations. But under the Character of a Patriot Gentleman, a Person of Title and Property in the same Country, to give into such a gross unequal State of Things, is like that of turning Advocate for Suicide. To imagine the unnatural Violence here maintained against English Wool Growers, a PUBLIC BENEFIT, any Way proportioned to the INJUSTICE of it, is a foul Mistake; since that creates no additional Stock; at most, makes only an Exchange of it, from the Right, to the Left, or wrong Hand; by which OWNERS LOSE, WHAT USURPERS GAIN.*

3. *In short, when we are meditating national Advantages from Woollen Manufacture, the Interest of our Wool Growers ought not to be overlooked; much less, trampled on—When we speak of Benefit thence by CHEAPNESS of Materials, in a NATIONAL SENSE, we must, to speak properly, either mean Materials of foreign Growth, totally, or in some Respect, different from the native; in Course wanted, and therefore desirable to be introduced in the best Manner, like dying Goods, for Example, Duty free; OR ELSE, we must mean an increased Growth of Home Materials, sufficient to occasion a comparative Cheapness, and at the same Time, make up to the Nation in Quantity, what shall be wanting to Individuals in the usual Price or Value: Yet providing ALWAYS, that the same, if found TOO MUCH for home Use, shall have some*

* On these Terms, it is not, properly speaking, to buy and sell Wool; but to rob, and be robbed of it—only out of the common Road of Highway Collectors; yet, with this Aggravation; one risks no Manner of Danger; the other hath no Means of Defence, or any Chance to escape.

Vent ELSWHERE, rather than perish in the Hands of the Producer. And, we add, 'tis better, that Vent, which a Superfluity, commonly speaking, will have, should be in an open legal, not in a clandestine illicit Channel; albeit this Writer, in the Case of ENGLISH WOOL, supposing ONE of the TWO, not only unavoidable, but beneficial, prefers the latter.

4. And although by Persons of his Alertness, it will be urged that, for the Sake of Cheapness merely, and Benefit thereby redounding to Manufacture, Importation of foreign Wools, the same in Quality with our own, ought to be encouraged, notwithstanding such a real or possible Plenty at Home, that either there is not, or at least, needs not to be any Want of them, yet we answer, ^{p Ch. 179.} this is not good Policy, ^{§. 4, 5.} considered singly and independently of other Rea- ^{See} sons; because, it being a greater Benefit to produce, than to import, even ^{Ch. 203.} Materials, 'tis for the most Part, so much wiser to encourage the former, than ^{§. 14.} promote the latter, by how much, it is better to be Sellers than Buyers of any Commodity whatsoever. And the Reason holds still stronger in Equity, against importing a particular Material, not actually wanted, so long as to export that very Material, on any Terms, is absolutely forbid. BUT if 'tis good Policy, for special Reasons, to promote Importation freely of some Material, under the Circumstances mentioned (Irish Wool for Example) 'tis surely but common Justice as well as Wisdom, on some legal Terms or another, to permit Exportation hence, of that very plentiful Material here, which, the ^{See Ch. 173.} Writer under Consideration, hath told us will (as to the superfluous Part) ^{§. 3. Note.} make its Way beyond Sea; and without Detriment to this Kingdom; for that

" IT PREVENTS IN OTHER COUNTRIES AN INCREASED FUND OF THEIR
 " OWN GROWTH, MORE THAN IT DIMINISHES THE WORK OF OUR MA- ^{Ch. 180.}
 " NUFACTURERS." ^{§. 13.}

II.

(Ch. 180 §. 14.) " We ought then to guard against all the Means which
 " might enhance the Price of our Wool."

5. The Word enhance, is here used equivocally, not in its proper modern Signification. A Commodity is then only enhanced (as we now understand that Term) when artificially raised above its natural Value—Whereas, what this Writer plainly mean't to say, though obliquely, is, That we ought by all possible Means to beat down the Price of our Wool, which is not only another Thing from enhancing. but likewise, a Thing so very unpalatable, that he has chose to put a
 thin

thin Disguise upon it in this Place; which nevertheless he makes no Difficulty of taking off very soon. (See Chap. 180. §. 15.)

6. *And here again if it be asked, Why should we not beat down the Price of our Wool by all possible means? We answer, 1st. Because it is OUR Wool, the Fruit of English Land and Labour also; both which contributing to the Support of Government, have a Right to common Protection, and not to be made a free Booty or Prey of, either in the Whole, or, in Part, but to be held in the same Regard with all other English Property. 2dly. Above all, because by this Writer's own Confession, such beating down the Price of our Wool,*

Ch. 180.
§ 13.

"OCCASIONS ' ITS BEING SMUGGLED OVER INTO FOREIGN MARKETS."

III.

Upon the *Whole*, of Chap. 180.

7. *It is difficult to say whether the Writer under Consideration, is French, or English. But, if the latter, HE hath very ingenuously given the upper Hand to a Prohibition.—We say, ingenuously, because he hath done it, NOT with so much as a PRETENCE of thereby confining English Wools at Home, in any greater Degree than by a Duty: But the Reverse, AND merely for the Sake of beating down their Price, and keeping them always comparatively low in England; although he acknowledges the same to be "A MEANS OF DETRIMENTAL TO THE COURSE OF THEM MORE VIOLENTLY INTO FOREIGN MARKETS."* (See Chap. 180. §. 7.

8. *But if, on the other Hand, our Author is French (which we conceive not very improbable) his Performance in this Part, is to be esteemed a Finesse or Artifice, according to the Genius of that Nation, in favour of opening all Ports, &c. and of the Prohibition. 'Tis in short, to be taken for an Argument of its being judged in France, that from THOSE TWO Measures jointly, THEY expect to reap a more plentiful Harvest of Wool, English, or Irish, AND (which is perhaps of greater Consequence to THEM) more Benefit by the Whole of THEIR SMUGGLING TRADE, than under the Policies, of CERTAIN PORTS ONLY, and of A DUTY, instead of an UTTER PROHIBITION.*

9. *Taking this Performance then (Ch. 180.) either in the Light of an English, or of a French Author; and that by it a Part was certainly acting (for so we deem it) and probably in Concert, 'tis no Wonder that what accordingly, was first to be played off in France, where, in these Particulars,*
it

it could answer no direct Ends, should soon after be exhibited upon the Stage of England, for which IT WAS INTENDED.

10. This methinks is not unlikely. But howsoever it be in Reality, the probable genuine Effects of A DUTY, and the certain, natural, Consequences of A PROHIBITION, have been in this Tract, so far admitted that it were to be wished the LANDED INTEREST OF THIS KINGDOM might be suffered, or rather, could be prevailed with, to join Issue thereupon; and that, after trying by Dint of fair Argument, the Merits of each, PUBLIC MEASURES might be taken accordingly: For if, NATIONALLY speaking, the WHOLE UTILITY of a Prohibition is put upon the DEARNESS it creates, of English Wool to FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS; then is the Matter reduced to one single Question, viz. What is that DEARNESS, or ADVANCED PRICE, at which Foreigners do purchase it? This being known nearly; that a Duty might be calculated, to have the very same Effect, is demonstrable, as that two and two are equal Numbers. But if the Advantage of a Prohibition, is made (with this Author) to consist in a positive artificial Cheapness, BEYOND what SUCH A DUTY, as hath been mentioned, CAN create; THAT, is straining Things extremely against the GROWER; and chiefly, 'tis apprehended, FOR THE BENEFIT OF SMUGGLERS.

C H A P. CLXXXII.

*An Extract of Proceedings before the House of Commons,
relating to Wool, from 1661-2 to 1752.*

Various Custom-House Accounts.

The Copy of an Amsterdam Price Courant, March 15, 1753.

*An Account of English Wool run into BOULOGNE, betwixt October, 1754,
and March, 1755.*

I.

1. 14 Car. II. A Law passed relating to Wool, see the ^a Statute.

1671-2. A Bill to prevent the Exportation of Wool presented, and
M m

^a 13. 14. Car.
II. c. 18. See
Ch. 43, P. S.

passed

passed the Commons: The Lords amend it, and (after a Conference with the Lords upon their Amendment) the Commons agree to their Amendments.

1672-3. An engrossed Bill from the Lords to prevent the Transportation of Wool: It does not appear whether the Commons passed it.

1675. Another from the Lords to the same Effect; but what became of the Bill does not appear.

1677. A Bill presented in the Commons to prevent the Exportation of Wool; but did not pass.

^b Ch. 72.
§. 3.

1688-9. A Bill ^b passed to prevent the Exportation of Wool.

1690-1. A Bill to prevent the Exportation of Wool: This Bill went no farther than a Committee.

1693-4. A Bill to prevent the Exportation of Wool, and for other Purposes: This Bill was reported, but the Report never considered.

1694-5. A Bill to prevent the Exportation of Wool, and for the better Payment of Workmen's Wages employed in the Woolen Manufactures—This Bill was reported; but was recommitted, and never reported again.

^c Ch. 76.
§. 14. Note.

1695-6. A Bill to prevent the Exportation of Wool, ^c and to encourage the Importation thereof from *Ireland*: This Bill passed into a Law.

1696-7. A Committee was appointed to consider of Methods to prevent the Exportation of Wool—came to several Revolutions—Bill ordered thereupon—An Account presented by the Commissioners of the Customs of Informations they have received, relating to the running of Wool—A Debate in the House, whether the Bill should be engrossed---The Debate adjourned from Time to Time; and at last passed in the Negative.

^d Ch. 78.
§. 5.

1697-8. Two Bills presented this Session, to prevent the Exportation of Wool: *N. B.* One ^d of them passed into a Law.

1698-9. A Committee was appointed to consider of the most proper Methods to prevent the Exportation of Wool---Several Representations from the Board of Trade (entered in the Journal) to prevent the Exportation of Wool, and encourage the Woolen Manufactures---Heads of a Bill reported, and Bill ordered---presented and read the first Time, but never read a second Time.

1699-1700. A Committee appointed to prevent the Exportation of Wool---agreed to a Report; but it was never made to the House.

1701-2. A Report made by a Committee, upon a Petition complaining of Abuses committed by Persons deputed by the Commissioners appointed to prevent the Exportation of Wool—These Abuses were, the seizing Wool under Pretence of its being for Exportation, and then taking large Sums of Money from the Owners thereof, to have it returned—In the Course of this Inquiry, several Proposals were offered to the Committee to prevent the Exportation of Wool—One *John Purchase* proposed a general Registry of all Wool grown in the Kingdom—Whereupon^e Ch. 51. the Commons resolved, that the most effectual Way was, to establish a §. 14. *Note* a general Register of all Wool grown in the Kingdom: And one other Way was, to prohibit any Wool from being Water borne.

1702-3. A Resolution to go into a Committee to consider of Laws against exporting Wool—A Petition against exporting it—A Bill for that Purpose presented; but never read a second Time.

1703-4. Copy of an Agreement between her Majesty and the King of *Portugal*^f, relating to the importing of Wines into *England* and Woolen^f Ch. 193. Manufactures into *Portugal*, together with a long Letter of Mr. *Methuen*'s, §. 2. laid before the House, &c.

1707-8 Several Petitions to prevent the Exportation of Wool and Woolfells referred to a Committee—Resolution, that it appeared to the Committee that great Quantities of Wool had been clandestinely exported into foreign Parts—Report ordered to lie upon the Table.

1709-10. Several Petitions complaining of the Importation of *Irish* Yarn—referred to a Committee, and a Bill ordered; but never was presented.

1710-11. Several Petitions against the Importation of *Irish* Yarn into *England*—Referred to a select Committee—The Committee made a Report; which was referred to the Committee of Supply, but nothing further done.

1711-12. Several Petitions against exporting Wool to *France*, referred to a Committee, but no Report made.

1712-13. Accounts laid before the House, viz. of Woolen Manufactures exported for four Years before the Year 1703—The Species and Quantities^g in the several Years being distinguished—Of Woolen Manufactures^g See Ch. 97. § 7. Ch. 106. shipped at the Port of *London* for *France* from Christmas 1668 to Christmas 1669—Of Woolen Manufactures exported to *Portugal* for four Years, distinguishing the Species and Quantities in the several Years—An Address

to her Majesty voted, for a Proclamation with a Reward to such as shall discover any Person exporting Wool from *Great Britain* or *Ireland*.

1713-14. A Committee appointed to consider of Heads of a Bill to prevent running of Wool---Report a great Number of Resolutions---A Bill presented and committed---Dropped in the Committee---An Address for a further Reward to such as shall discover any Persons exporting Wool, till further Provision is made by Parliament to prevent it.

1714-15. Several Petitions against exporting Wool to *France*---Report and Resolutions, and Bill ordered; but never was presented.

1715-16. A Bill against Exportation of Wool, Wool-Fells, &c. presented---A Petition from the Deputies of the States of the Isles of *Jersey*, and *Guernsey*, against some Parts of the Bill---The Petitioners ordered to be heard by Counsel---The Bill dropped in the Committee.

1717-18. Several Petitions for the Importation of *Irish Yarn*; but nothing done.

1718-19. Several Petitions against the Exportation of Wool---All ordered to lie upon the Table---Two Accounts of Wool imported from *Ireland* ordered; but were never presented.

1719-20. An Address for a Reward to such as shall discover Persons running Wool; and that his Majesty will direct the Commissioners of Trade during the Recess of Parliament to consider of a Method to prevent the running of Wool, and to lay the same before the House, the next Session.

1720-1. A long Report from the *Board of Trade* to prevent the running of Wool, laid before the House---A great Number of Petitions complaining of *Irish* Wool being run into *France*---All ordered to lie upon the Table, and nothing more done.

1726-7. Three Accounts, of what Woolen Manufactures, with their Value, have been exported to *Turkey*, *Italy*, and the *Streights*, for seven Years to Christmas 1725, presented to the House. (See §. 2.)

1729-30. The Letter (*w*) in the Journal of this Year tore out of the Index---And I don't find any thing about Wool.

1731-2 Several Petitions against exporting Wool---Commissioners of Trade present ^h Proposals to prevent running of Wool---A ⁱ Bill to render former Acts for that Purpose more effectual passed into a Law.

^h Ch. 127.
ⁱ P. S.

1733-4.

1733-4. Several Petitions to prevent the Exportation of Wool, referred to a Committee; but the Committee never made a Report.

1735-6. Resolution for a Committee of the whole House, to consider of the Heads of a Bill to prevent the Exportation of Wool from *Great Britain and Ireland*, but nothing more done.

1737-8. Several Petitions complaining of the Decay of the Woolen Manufacture; and all of them, except one from *Tavistock*, attribute it to the running of Wool from *Great Britain and Ireland* to foreign Parts—The Petition from *Tavistock* sets forth that the Decay of Trade is owing to the great Number of spinning Houses set up in the adjacent Villages, where the Manufacturers employ the poor in spinning; and instead of 16 Ounces, make them spin 18 or 20 Ounces to the Pound—And that though there are public Scales in the Town, and Persons to weigh the Wool before 'tis sent to spin, yet 'tis never done; which obliges them not to do their Work so well as it ought to be done, and has by that means occasioned many Serges to be returned from abroad, to the great Destruction of Trade—All these ordered to lie upon the Table.

1738-9. A Bill for taking off the Duties upon Woolen and Bay Yarn imported from *Ireland*, and for the more effectual preventing the Exportation of Wool from *Great Britain*, and of Wool manufactured from *Ireland* to foreign Parts. N. B. This Bill^{*} was brought in upon several Resolutions, and passed into a Law. * Ch. 142.
P. S.

1739-40. A Petition from *Torrington* in the County of *Devon*, complaining of the Decay of the Woolen Manufacture, owing to the Exportation of Wool—Ordered to lie upon the Table.

28 Feb. 1739. Ordered, that a Bill be brought in to amend an Act 23 Hen. VIII, intituled, "For the winding of Wool; which Act was made perpetual by an Act 12 Eliz." and that Sir Miles Stapylton, Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Vere do prepare and bring in the same.

1740-1. Several Petitions¹ complaining of the Decay of the Woolen Manufacture, owing to the running of Wool, and also to unskilful Persons exercising the Woolen Manufacture—An Account of Wool seized for seven Years, to Christmas 1740 (250 Fleeces¹ was the Quantity seized) 1 Ch. 145.
P. S.
—Resolution for a public Registry in *Great Britain and Ireland*—An Address that the Commissioners of Trade may prepare a Scheme for a public Registry against next Session—An Account of the Value of Woolen Manufactures. m Ch. 193.
§. 124, 125.

nufactures exported to *Turkey* from 1720 to 1740 (Value * 258298*l.* 16*s* 8*d.*)
—An Account of the Quantity of Woolen Manufactures exported in that Time, presented—D^o to *Russia* in that Time, presented.

* Ch. 149.

1741-2 Two Petitions complaining of the Decay of the Woolen Manufactures—Both these Petitions attribute it to unskilful Persons engaging in the Trade—Referred to a Committee, but no Report made—Reportⁿ from the Board of Trade for a public Registry presented and ordered to be printed—A Bill to oblige Masters of Vessels seized for unlawful exporting of Wool, to give Security for Costs—Passed into a Law—An Account of Woolen Goods exported since Christmas 1715, presented—An Account of Woolen Yarn imported from *Ireland* since 1729, presented—An Account of Wool carried Coastwise, presented.

1742-3. Several Petitions for registering Wool, ordered to lie upon the Table.

1743-4. A Petition of *John Smith*, together with a Scheme to prevent running of Wool—Question to refer it to a Committee—Negative †.

An Account of Woolen Manufactures exported to *Turkey* from 1740 to 1743, ordered, but never presented.

* See Ch. 185.
§. 11.

† Chap. 176
P. S.

1744-5. The House went into a Committee to consider the State of the Woolen Manufacture in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*—*Henry Baxter*, and *Bradshaw*^o were examined before the Committee (See the Committee Book of that Year) *Lowndes's* Petition presented, and referred to the Committee—Report made with several Proposals—*Lowndes's*^p Scheme printed by Order of the House—Account of Woolen Manufactures exported from 1737 to 1744—Account of Wool and Yarn carried coastwise for seven Years—Account of Bonds given in Relation to Wool; and of Wool and Yarn seized by the Officers of the Customs, for 10 Years—Account of Wool, &c.

* We suppose this to have been the annual Value upon a Medium for that Term, or otherwise a Mistake in the Transcriber; because by a Custom House Account (see 1726-7) to be exhibited presently, the Medium of seven years to 1725, was 222807*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$.

† This Petition, &c. was the Authors; and had been some Weeks on the Table, when 'twas thought proper by a few worthy Members to move for its being referred to a Committee—The Negative was said to have been owing to Mr. *A———n V———t*, then one of the Members for *N———ch*, who, although he had oftner than once or twice, within the Space of an Hour before the Motion, consented to wave his Opposition, (as was conceived) yet had not Resolution enough to withhold it—A Tract published on the Occasion had been sent to that Gentleman some Days before; which he confessed he had not read, because it would have cost him *two or three Hours*—While the Affair was under Debate, a Member going into the House, met several coming out; and asking one of them what was doing within, he answered, *something about Wool*—To which the other replied gravely, *And do you run away from it?*

carried

carried coastwise—Account of Woolen Manufactures exported from *England*—Account of Woolen Yarn imported from *Ireland*, severally presented to the House—A Petition of *George Bonnel*, that he had prepared a Scheme to prevent running of Wool—Ordered to lie upon the Table—An Account of *Spanish Wool* imported to *Scotland* from 1731 to 1744—the Quantity 5255 C. Weight—Account of d^o. imported into *England* from 1725 to 1733—This last Account is wanting.

1745-6. Several Petitions recommending a public Registry of Wool—A great Number of Accounts relating to Wool ordered, but none of them presented.

1751-2. Several Petitions against the false winding of Wool⁹, and excessive marking of Sheep referred to a Committee, who are to report an Opinion thereupon—Report made and printed. Chap. 193. §. 73, 74.

N. B. *The Author is indebted to a most worthy Knight of a Shire, who does not think the Affair of Wool beneath his Attention, for every Thing contained in this Chapter, except §. 3. and §. 8. The above long Roll of Proceedings before the Commons, though superficial and not altogether perfect, yet may be of some Use in more Regards than one. 1. As a Chart or Map of Transactions for 90 Years; many of them not to be seen elsewhere in print. 2. For those who have Access to Journals, as an Index of Direction, where to look for original Papers which they shall be curious enough to inspect. 3. Above all, it tells the troubled, perplexed, and even bewildered State of this Kingdom in Reference to WOOL, ever since the Restoration, when an absolute Prohibition first took place; and which is some Argument, of that not having been a proper Policy or Measure for the Purpose, we shall shew, intended by it.* Ch. 196.

II.

2. The total Value of Woolen Manufactures exported to *Turkey*, *Italy*, and the *Streights* for 7 Years to 1725, viz. to

	Turkey.			Italy.			The Streights.		
	£.	s.	D.	£.	s.	D.	£.	s.	D.
1719	290673	13	9	36951	12	9	250788	8	5
1720	337066	17	6	44732	14	7	239773	15	11
1721	120295	6	8	22875	10	10	289456	14	3
1722	236556	17	1	67736	6	10	412374	13	11

1723

	Turkey.			Italy.			The Streights.		
	£.	s.	D.	£.	s.	D.	£.	s.	D.
1723	143508	16	8	46472	15	2	320812	18	2
1724	191132	6	3	53274	0	1	472380	0	3
1725	240416	12	11	81321	0	5	370426	15	3

Custom House, Inspector
Generals Office April 6, 1727.

John Oxenford,
Assistant J. G.

Putting together these Accounts, the three last Years will be found to have exceeded the three next foregoing, by more than 155000 £. Not only so, but
 * Chap. 171. of seven Years, from 1718 to 1724 inclusive, the whole woollen Exports from
 No. 5. England, in the three last of them, exceeded the three immediately preceding, by upwards of £ 680000—Notwithstanding which, it is to be remarked, that Wool fell precisely in the Years 1723, 4, 5, to a very low Pitch. See Ch. 171. N^o. i. §. 11, 12. N^o. iv. N^o. v.

III.

3. Wool and Yarn imported from Ireland to England, viz.

	Wool Stones.	Yarn Stones.
1745	21601	80332
1746	71411	131775
1747	69287	141288
1748	42836	229425
1749	43208	170345
1750	45439	186250

IV.

4. An Account of the Value of Woollen Manufactures entered for Exportation from England, from Christmas 1743, to Christmas 1753; distinguishing each Year; only the odd Shillings and Pence omitted in the Total of every Year.

	£.
From Christmas 1743 to Christmas 1744	2,762,869
1745	2,947,357
1746	3,646,843
1747	3,554,038
1748	3,514,396
1749	4,477,851
1750	4,320,006
1751	4,206,762
1752	3,718,123
1753	4,223,233

NOTE,

NOTE, *This and the last foregoing Account, with some more, will be resumed in another Place* *, in order to make the proper use of them.

* Ch. 193.
§. 87, &c.

V.

A Price courant of *Spanish Wool* at *Amsterdam*, *March 15, 1753*; also of *English Wool* there, at the same time.

1753	Stivers	la lib.	1719 *
5. Leonefa	40 a 41	—	
Segovia fine	38 a 39	—	36 a 37
Dho ordinaria	36 a 37	—	30 a 37
Soria Segoviana	35 a 39	—	32 a 33
Soria	33 a 34	—	
Seguenca Segoviana	32 a 33	—	30 a 31
Seguenca	30 a 31	—	21 a 30
Alberfina fina	28 a 29	—	27 a 28
Dho ordinaria	21 a 22	—	21 a 22
Estremina	22 a 23	—	
Caravacca	23 a 25	—	
Navarra	13 a 14	—	13 a 14
Esparagossa	29 a 31	—	
Caceres	28 a 30	—	27 a 28
Cabeca del Buey	25 a 27	—	24 a 25
Estremadura	23 a 24	—	23 a 24
Andalufia	21 a 23	—	20 a 22
Portugal	24 a 30	—	22 a 28
Dha peel wol	14 a 15	—	
Fy T. Segovia	32 a 34	—	
Fy T. Soria			
Segoviana	30 a 32		
Fy T. Soria	28 a 30		

* See
Ch. 172.

<i>Lambs Wool</i> 100 lb.	Florins.		
Sucios Leonefes	85 a 90	<i>Dhos Lavados</i>	110 a 120
De Segovia	80 a 85	—	100 a 110
Soria Segovia	75 a 80	—	90 a 100
Soria	70 a 75	—	85 a 90

N n

Ordi-

Ordinarios	60 a 65	—	80 a 85
Portugal	40 a 50	—	95 a 108

^y See
Chap. 185.

N. B. *All these, subject to the customary Deductions, &c. of Amsterdam; which for want of sufficient Information, we cannot fully explain; was in Hopes of it from Mr. Postlethwait's Translation of Savary, but are disappointed.*

^z Ch. 193
§. 85.

6. ENGLISH WOOL from 8 to 10 Stivers the ^z Pound—eleven of which Stivers make twelve English Pennies.

7. *Impost Duties* on all Sorts of Wool brought into Holland are 2 per cent. of the Value. *Export* 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent.

The above Circumstances of English Wool at the Market of Amsterdam; its Price there, compared with those of Spain and Portugal; and the very small Difference (only half per Cent.) between import and export Duties on ALL WOOLS, without Distinction of Country, in Holland, must surely give us other Notions of that Commodity in general, and what our own Country in particular produces, than are to be conceived from the far greater Part of English Writers on the Subject.

VI.

^a See Ch. 193.
§. 74.

8. Extract from a Letter to a noble Lord, printed 1755, containing a new Discovery, &c. "An Account" of the Quantity of Wool run into "Boulogne, betwixt October 1754, and March 1755. viz.

Merchants in Boulogne to whom in general, Smug- glers sell their Wool.	Combed Wool Packs	Fleece Wool Packs
" Monf. Becquereb	109	87
" Monf. James Coilliot	146	55
" Monf. William Coilliot	83	36
" Monf. John l' Bell	94	48
" Monf. Hamorell		42
" Monf. Germain Dallet	17	38
	449	306

C H A P. CLXXXIII.

From Mr. POSTLETHWAIT'S DICTIONARY OF COMMERCE. viz. Kingdoms and Countries producing Wool; and where Woolen Manufacturies are established, which have not been mentioned at all (or if some few of them, not so particularly) Chap. 120, 121 of this Work; nor in those Chapters which Mr. P. hath thence transcribed into his Dictionary; nor in any other Part of these Memoirs.

1. *ABRUZZO* the farther. One Part of a Province in the Kingdom of Naples in Italy: The Country cold and mountainous, yet fertile: The People industrious, given to Manufacture; particularly the WOOLEN. Vol I. p. 3.
2. *Achaia*, now *Livadia*, a Province of Turkey in Europe, is large and populous; its Trade consists in some Woolen Stuffs, &c. II.
3. *Madagascar*, an African Island, abounds with spacious Plains, extraordinary good Pastures, a Number of Oxen and Cows, and great Herds of SHEEP. 26.
4. *Lauzerotes*, or *Laucerota*, in the Canary Islands, is divided by a Ridge of Mountains depastured with SHEEP: Also *Teneriff* is well stocked with SHEEP. 28.
5. *Nice*, a Town of *Bythinia*, a District of *Asia Minor*, hath a considerable Traffic in FINE CLOTH, and other *Levantine Manufactures*: *Nicomedia*, a rich and populous City, in WOOLEN CLOTHS. 59.
6. *Aladulia*, another Province of *Asia Minor*, comprehending *Cappadocia* and the lesser *Armenia*, though unfit for Tillage, hath Abundance of fine pasture Grounds, and besides other Cattle, vast Herds of SHEEP. 60.
7. *Cordova*, the next City in Dignity to *Seville*, the Capital of *Andalusia*, a Province in Spain, carries on a great Variety of Manufactures; particularly WOOLEN, of the finest Kind, and in very great Perfection. 63.
8. The Island of *Cuba*, for so large an Extent of Country, accounted the best Land in *America*, hath Plenty of SHEEP. 76.
9. *Arabia deserta* hath Plains and Vallies that feed a great Number of SHEEP. 87.
10. One

96. 10. One Commodity of *Candia*, a large Island in the *Mediterranean*, is
 97. WOOL: And from *Samos* is exported WOOL: And from *Thermia* an
 98. Island in the *Archipelago*.
123. 11. In the Island of *Cyprus* are Manufactures of *Cotton* and *Wool*, the
 best in all the *East*.
151. 12. *Astrabad* in *Persia*: Here are made a great many brown *Druggets*,
 and other light STUFFS.
158. 13. *Austrian Netherlands*. This Spot once the Center of the *Woolen Ma-*
 159. *manufactures*; which are still a Branch of Business there. At *Vianden* in
 161. the Dutchy of *Luxemburgh* they have a considerable Trade in WOOLEN
 CLOTHS. At *Limburgh* and *Mons* are no inconsiderable Manufactures for
 WOOLEN STUFFS: At *Ghent* in *Austrian Flanders*, they have large Manu-
 factures of CLOTHS and STUFFS; insomuch that of 50 Companies of
 Tradesmen there, those relating to the *Woolen Manufactures*, make one
 Third. Nor are *Bruges* and *Courtray*, and *Diest* in *Brabant*, without a
 great Trade in WOOLEN CLOTHS.
163. 14. In *Tercera*, one of the *Azores* Islands, are a Number of large Oxen
 and SHEEP.
242. 15. *Sundiva*, an Island in the *East Indies*, abounds with SHEEP.
246. 16. In the City of *Berne*, is a Manufacture of certain Stuffs introduced
 by *French* Refugees.
291. 17. There is a great Quantity of *Blankets* manufactured at *Paris*, and
 in some Provinces of *France*; particularly in *Normandy*, *Auvergne* and
Languedoc: The *French* also import a great many; particularly from *Cata-*
lonia, *Spain*, *Flanders*, and *England*. Those of *Catalonia* are very beautiful
 and fine.
329. 18. *Diest* in *Brabant* is noted for its *Woolen Cloths*, *Hose*, &c. and in
Boisleduc the Linen and WOOLEN Manufactures flourish.
362. 19. In *Carolina* are made *Druggets* with *Silk* and *Wool*.
364. 20. In *Virginia*, before the settling of the *English* there, were neither
 Horses, Cows, Sheep, or Swine; at present there is plenty of them ALL.
365. 21. In *Maryland* is no *Woolen Manufacture*, except in *Somerset County*.
365. 22. In *Pensylvania* is plenty of Oxen, Cows and SHEEP—Of the latter
 'tis common for Farmers to have FOUR or FIVE HUNDRED in a Flock.
384. 23. The Dutchy of *Hanover* hath fine Meadows and Fields; affords
 SHEEP; and WOOL for Export.

24. *California* hath excellent Pasturage in all Seasons for great and small Cattle.

25. *Cambresis*, a Province in *France*, North of *Picardy*, hath excellent 435. Pastures for Sheep; the Wool of which is *extremely fine*, and much esteemed.

26. *Canada*, The Meadow Grounds are well watered; yield excellent 440. Grass; and breed great Quantities of large and small Cattle.

27. *Illinois*: an *Indian* People inhabiting near a River of that Name: 442. The Lands on both Sides afford such Plenty of Pasture that they are covered with Herds of large and small Cattle.

28. *Louisiana*: The whole Country abounds with an infinite Variety of Cattle, and every Thing that Life can desire.

29. At *Chalons* in *Champagne*, some Years ago they set up a Manufac- 481. tory of *Shalloons* and other *thin Stuffs*, which sell very well both within the Kingdom and in foreign Parts.

30. At *Otorno*, an inland Town in the Kingdom of *Chili*, they make 488. WOOLEN STUFFS.

31. *Villa Rica*: Most of the Inhabitants of this Town work in Wool, and make very good CLOTH.

32. The chief Benefit of the *Venetians* from *Dalmatia*, is, that they re- 614. ceive from thence a great Quantity of Corn and ^b Mutton.

33. Among the Merchandises proper for that Trade which the *Dutch* 614. carry on with the *Spaniards* in *America*, are ALL SORTS of WOOLEN MANUFACTURES made at *Lisle*, *Valenciennes*, *Abbeville*, *Leyden* and *Harlem*. ^{b Chap. 170. §. 1.}

34. From *Fez*, a Kingdom in *Africa*, Goods exported are, Wool, &c. 774. The Country is fruitful in Wool, &c. In the Province of *CHAUS*, *Mount Beni Jasga* feeds GREAT FLOCKS OF SHEEP; WHOSE WOOL IS SO FINE AND LONG, THAT THEY WEAVE IT INTO SUPERFINE CLOTHS, which are AS LIGHT AND NEAT AS SILK.

35. In *Lisle*, the Capital City of *French Flanders*, is a considerable Ma- 794. nufacture of *Serges*, and other WOOLEN STUFFS: At *Doway* the chief Trade consists in making and vending WORSTED CAMLETS: At *Menin* is some Trade in WOOLEN STUFFS there manufactured.

36. *Ypres* is a rich and trading Town, the Capital of a fruitful trading Country, in *Says*, wrought Silks, &c. *Bergen St. Winoc* hath a Manufactory of WOOLEN CLOTH.

37. At

799.

37. At *Florence* in *Italy* are Manufactures of *Serges* and various Kinds of CLOTHS.

839.

38. *Erlingen* in *Franconia*, fifty Years ago, a small Village, now, a well built Town, owes its flourishing State to a Colony of *French Refugees* who set up all Sorts of Manufacture. At *Anspach* are good Manufactures erected by *French Refugees*.

39. *Sweinfurt* on the *Maine*: Its Territory the richest Spot in *Franconia*: The Inhabitants export WOOLEN CLOTH.

846.

40. The whole Coast of *Malaguetta* has great Plenty of SHEEP.

914.

41. In *Salonichi*, the capital City of *Macedonia*, which affords great Quantities of WOOL, &c. the *Jews* have a Monopoly of the Manufactures of ALL THE STUFFS made for the Use of the *Janisaries*.

915.

42. In *Candia* are Abundance of SHEEP and WOOL.

923.

43. *Groningen*, one of the seven United Provinces, abounds with good Pastures and large Herds of great and small Cattle.

928.

44. Exports from *England* to *Africa*, WOOL CARDS, &c.

940.

45. *Walstrade*, a considerable Town in the Dutchy of *Hanover*, with a Trade in WOOL.

967.

46. *Japan*: Cattle of all Sorts in vast Numbers.

982.

47. *Indostan*, or the Empire of the great *Mogul*: Towards *Persia* and *Tartary* they have fine large Sheep; whereas those in the South are thin and long shanked, with red Hair on their Backs instead of Wool, and their Flesh is lean and dry.

983.

48. *Cassimere*, a Province of *Indostan*: Their own Wool FINER THAN SPANISH: Their Merchants that go every Year from one Mountain to another, to gather WOOL, say, that between those Mountains which are independant on this Province, there are several Vallies of good Land, which pay an annual Tribute to the Government, in Leather, and WOOL.

984.

49. *Meartha*, a Town in the Province of *Agra*, or *Indostan* proper, has a great Trade in ——— and WOOLEN CLOTH—*Labor* Province hath Manufactures of WOOLEN STUFFS—*Raypore* in the southern Division abounds with ——— and FINE CLOTH.

985.

50. *Canow*, a large City, with a great Trade in CLOTH.

51. *Golconda* Kingdom abounds with SHEEP.

52. *Coromandel Coast*: Multitudes of Sheep with NO * WOOL, but a lit- 986.
tle Hair.

53. *Verviers* on the River *Wese*, has a very flourishing Manufacture of Vol. II.
WOOLEN CLOTHS, said to be nothing inferior to those made in England— P. 74.
So that their Trade extends all over Germany, and even into the North
of Europe, to Italy and Turkey: Near this Town stands the Borough of
Hodimont; where they also make a great Quantity of WOOLEN CLOTHS.

54. *NEAU*, called *Eupin* by the Inhabitants, a Borough more confide- 75.
rable than many Cities, for its Inhabitants and Trade: They make here
WOOLEN CLOTHS said to be as good and fine as those made in ENGLAND;
especially the scarlet, blue, and black. They have a considerable Trade for
them throughout the Country, and especially in Germany.

55. *Vianden* has a considerable Trade in WOOLEN CLOTHS; with 119.
which they furnish the whole Province.

56. *Vera Paz* Province. One Commodity is WOOL: *Chiapa*: WOOL. 248.

57. *Moldavia*, a Principality of European Turkey, hath a good Breed of 282.
SHEEP.

58. *Moravia*, *Marquisate*, a Principality of Bohemia. Its Pastures are filled 292.
with SHEEP: *Iglaw*, a populous Town of this Province, trades in COARSE
WOOLEN CLOTHS, which they make and dress themselves.

59. *Morocco*: The Moors export WOOL. 293.

60. The *Diaguities*, a Nation of *Paraguay proper*, in South America, 407.
employ themselves in feeding Cattle, especially SHEEP; the WOOL of
which is manufactured and dyed by them; and a great Commerce is made
of it throughout the Province. The SHEEP are very large, though their
WOOL is very fine.

61. *Parma*, a Dutchy in Italy, hath WOOLEN MANUFACTURE. 422.

62. *Quito*, A Spanish Province in America, hath Abundance of Cows and 450.
SHEEP. *Quito* the capital City, is a Market for ALL SORTS OF CLOTH, and
for WOOL.

63. *Guayaquil*, 185 Miles distant from *Quito*: Commodities exported 451.
thence are ——— WOOLEN CLOTH, commonly called *Clotb of Quito*, be-
cause made in that City.

64. *Portugal*: The WOOLEN MANUFACTURES of this Country are of 508.

* From this Instance, and that in §. 47, is to be concluded, that they are Exceptions, in
Nature, from what Sheep commonly are, and that all the others mentioned, do produce WOOL.

so indifferent and coarse a Nature, that they are only worn by the meaner Sort: Province of *Alentejo*, the Country fine and fertile, the People mostly Farmers: *Elvas*: The chief Trade of this Town is WOOLEN MANUFACTURE.

662. 65. *Sardinia* breeds vast Herds of large and small Cattle—So that besides its Home Consumption, it furnishes *Italy* with WOOL.

* See Ch. 120. §. 6. 665. 66. *Saxony* (besides *Gorlitz*) *Zittaw*, a fine City, and a great Manufacture of CLOTH: *Camitz*, a populous little City, with a Manufacture of both WOOLEN and *Linen* CLOTH: *Guben*, a large and populous Town has a WOOLEN MANUFACTURE: *Somerfeld* has also a WOOLEN MANUFACTURE: *Calow*, A GREAT MARKET FOR WOOL.

733. 67. *North-Strand*, an Island in the *German Ocean*, hath Abundance of SHEEP.

770. 68. *Suabia* Circle, in *Germany*: a good Breed of SHEEP.

774. 69. *Switzerland*: Every Canton or Province in Summer, affords good Pasture to the SHEEP.

70. *Dillemergh* on the River *Dilla* (*Germany* *) has a good Trade in Cattle and WOOLEN Goods: *Herbron*, upon the same River, in Cotton and WOOLEN CLOTHS: *Hanau*, The *Walloons* have established here several Manufactures; viz. WOOLEN STUFFS, &c.

^d Ch. 120. §. 121. 71. N. B. We have made this Collection, as also those before ^d from the *Atlas* General, and *Salmon's* modern History, with some others; because we have found that what of the same Kind lies scattered in such large Works, being seen

* Gen. Ev. May 10, 1755.
Cologne, April 22.

“ We have Advice from *Aix la Chapelle* of an Insurrection in that City, on the Occasion of a new Manufacture set up under the Protection of the Magistrates—The Sheer Men and other WOOLEN Manufacturers having called in to their Assistance those of *Liege* and the neighbouring Towns, fell with great Rage on the new Manufactory, to destroy it. Many Blows were given; and some Blood shed,

Gen. Ev. May 13, 1755.
Brussels, May 3.

“ A dreadful Fire has almost consumed the Village of *Zoetre* in *Campine*: As there was a Manufactory of CLOTH in the Village, the Loss is very considerable.

Gen. Ev. May 15, 1755.
Leipsic, May 3.

“ An Ordinance is issued, whereby the King prohibits, till further Notice, the Importation of ALL FOREIGN WOOLEN MANUFACTURES—At the Rate most of the German Courts deal with us in the WOOLEN MANUFACTURES, it seems high Time to encourage *Ireland* and *Scotland*, by a total Prohibition of foreign Linens.”

Gen. Ev. May 20, 1755.

“ The last Accounts from *Boston* in *New England*, advise, that SEVERAL HUNDRED SHEEP were lately found dead, and a GREAT NUMBER missing in some Parts of *Salem*, *Lynn*, and other adjacent Parts,

at the most, only by Piece Meal, hath not had due Attention from Readers, or even Writers—insomuch that plainly Mr. P. himself had never summed up in his own Mind, what we have here extracted from him; otherwise he would not, we think, have said some Things to be found in the next following Chapter; particularly this, repeated by him, oftener than once: “ ’TIS THEY (the English) WHO FURNISH ALL THE WORLD WITH WOOL.”—The Expression, we know, he took from another Writer^f—But the Sentiment he hath made very much his own, by giving it so many Times over, ^g as he hath done.

^e Chap. 184.
§ 3.

^f Chap. 176.
P. S.

^g Chap. 185.
§. 10.

C H A P. CLXXXIV.

*Extracts * from Mr. Postlethwait's Dictionary of Commerce ;
Historical and Political.*

1. **T**HE high Rate of Things is an Argument of the flourishing; and the Cheapness, of the Scarcity of Money and ill peopling of all Countries. The first is a Sign of many Inhabitants; which is true Greatness: The second is only a fit Subject for Poets to describe, and to compare to their Golden Age. For where all Things are without Price or Value, they will be without Arts, or Empire or Strength.

N. B. For this Mr. P. quotes Bishop SPRATT'S HISTORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY. (See Ch. 193. §. 27—43.)

2. The Netherlanders have been some Years since creeping into the Woolen Manufacture by the Means of Irish Wool, and what other they certainly procure from England—These are the Effects of suffering our Neighbours to come at OUR WOOL at any Rate; of which if we deprive them, they will be effectually prevented. (See §. 30.)

3. 'Tis Felony^h in England, to export Wool; and yet they who furnish ALL THE WORLD with WOOL, have the least of the manufacturing of it among themselves. The Want of taking off the Taxes on their Manufacturersⁱ makes it openly be carried out at Noon Day—Before we

308.

^h Chap. 191.
§. 28.

ⁱ Chap. 178.
§. 9. Note.

* Those of the foregoing Chapter we conceive to be Translations from Mr. Savary chiefly; but these, except a few of them, are what Mr. Postlethwait hath confounded with that celebrated Work; which in the Opinion of several had been better, if rendered intire and unblended—that is, if Mr. Postlethwait had in some Method or another distinguished therefrom, his own Additions and Improvements, without incorporating the same, in the Manner he has done, throughout.

VOL. II.

O O

obtained

315.
 Chap. 190.
 §. 22. Note.
 352.

obtained the Woolen Manufacture in this Kingdom, the *Flemings*, we know, had the WHOLE ^k in their Hands by Means of our WOOL.

4. OUR WOOL, if duly regarded, would equal the boasted *Segovia*—But Trade, that provides under God our daily Bread, is in a manner *unregarded*; although it is the Improvement of that, which alone *can*, by giving Employment to our poor, *prevent* ROBBERIES and MURDER *.—Had the Trade of this Kingdom been *effectually* encouraged, Foreigners COULD NOT have diverted its Course, as they have done; the Decay whereof is certain from the Course of Exchange. (See §. 11. Note.)

353.

5. *Monfieur Colbert*, erecting MANUFACTURES OF WOOL in all Parts of *France*, and prohibiting ALL THE ENGLISH WOOLEN MANUFACTURES to be imported among *them*, in a few Years set the Poor to work throughout that Kingdom, in combing, spinning, weaving and dying Woolen Goods; although they had a very inconsiderable Quantity of WOOL OF THEIR OWN. The first Consequence of this was, that the King of *France* saw all his Subjects clothed, however indifferently, with the Manufactures of their own Country, who, but a few Years before, bought ALL THEIR ^l CLOTHS from *England*; and which was more, at second Hand, from *Flanders* and the *Dutch*. This profound Statesman, Mr. *Colbert*, took care, 1st, to gain over *English Artists*, and to plant them in every proper Part of *France*; next, to furnish *France* with ENGLISH and IRISH WOOL.

1 Chap. 191.
 §. 42.

354:

6. The Court of *Spain* hath in earnest adopted the late *Duke of Ripperda's* System to establish the *Woolen Manufacture* in that Kingdom, in order to supply themselves, instead of taking Woolen Goods from *England*. And for this Purpose have they not stole away *our Manufacturers*, to instruct their People, as the *French*, we have seen, did † in the Days of *Colbert*?

7. Why does *Ireland* carry on the clandestine Trade of Wool with *France*; but because they have more than they can manufacture for themselves, or send in Wool, or Woolen Yarn to *England* ‡?

* *Robberies and Murder*—As if it was commonly, or almost ever the Case, that Miscreants guilty of these Crimes, committed them, because they could not be employed in honest Labour, and not rather, through vicious Habits, in Consequence of an idle Disposition, and extravagant Love of Pleasure, Gaming, &c.

† Much in the same Manner: For as the *French* got the most of their foreign Workmen in the Days of *Colbert*, from *Holland* ^m; so seemingly had the *Spaniards* theirs, and Looms along with them, chiefly from *France*, in the Time of *Ripperda*. (See Chap. 178, § 29.)

m See Ch. 191.
 §. 42---49.

‡ Rather, because it finds considerably a better Market in *France* than *England*.

8. 'Tis true, *England* encourages the Importation of *Irish Wool*, and *Woolen Yarn*; which amounts annually to about 227049 * Stones; and which on a Medium being worth 10s 4d. per Stone, the *English* gain by it, at the lowest Calculation, £.678543 15s. 6d; at the higher of Mr. *King* (who reckons the Wool to be $\frac{1}{2}$) £.730340 19s.—and by the still higher of another ingenious Writer (1687) £.916710 6s. 9d. if exported white; but if dyed before Exportation, to $\frac{1}{3}$, if not one Half more—Hence judge how injurious the clandestine Exportation of Wool to *France* must be to these Kingdoms!—The *French* must be supposed to import at least double the Quantity of *Irish Wool* the *English* do—FRANCE therefore probably gains TWO MILLIONS Sterling per Annum, by means of IRISH WOOL.

9. THE FRENCH are the greatest Rivals in our Manufactures—But let Care be taken to prevent their being supplied with Wool from *England* and *Ireland*; and we shall soon see an Alteration. THIS will be laying the Axe to the Root of THEIR ^a COMMERCE: For though THEY have WOOL OF ^a Chap. 174. THEIR OWN; yet cannot they work it so as to injure us at foreign Mar- §. 15. kets †, without OURS, or IRISH. (See §. 30.)

10. Britons! Permit me to do myself the Honour, earnestly to recommend to you to cherish and care for your ingenious Artificers, your Mechanics and Manufacturers, that NO INDUCEMENTS may prevail with

* This was the medium Quantity for eight Years, 0, to Lady-day, 1728; but that of four ^o Chap. 171. Years, from 1741 to 1744 inclusive, was no more than 128911 Stones; and in the last of No. V. those Years (1744) the Quantity was only 103839 p. And without entering into these several ^p See Computations of Advantage to *England*, from *Irish Wool* and Yarn, here produced by Mr P ^q Chap. 143. there are two Observations to be made, that will reduce them all to nothing, and even less than No. 8. §. 4. nothing; namely, 1st, for what concerns particularly the Article of Woolen Yarn from *Ireland*, ^q See also as the same Quantity extraordinary might always have been certainly spun in *England*, with due Chap. 124. Care and Encouragement: So it was Money paid to Labour in *Ireland*, which had been more §. 2. profitably bestowed at home. 2dly, there is the greatest Reason to believe, and it will be proved ^r Chap. 197. by one very strong Instance at least, that whatever have been the Quantities of Wool at any §. 8. Time imported from *Ireland*, either in Yarn, or raw, they have only given Occasion for just so ^s Chap. 193. much more ENGLISH WOOL being clandestinely exported. In which View, it hath been rather §. 123. Loss than Gain; certainly, the former, in a national Sense, whatever it might be to Individuals by lowering the Markets for Wool, since that is the very Circumstance, which always did, and will induce the Runnage of it beyond Sea—So that there is nothing fairly to be reckoned upon from *Irish Woolen Yarn*, till after *British Spinning* shall have been increased to the utmost; nor even from the WOOL OF IRELAND, without a moral Assurance of the *Whole*, that is grown in *Britain* likewise, being wrought up there.

† Foreign Markets, a senseless Distinction! Since though the same Kinds of Goods, whether light or heavy, don't suit all Climates, yet, of such as do, the lower as well as higher priced, are alike proper to all Countries; and provided they are not barred by Prohibitions, or Duties tantamount, the former will have the readiest and largest Vent, forasmuch as the poor must far out-number the rich in every Place. (See §. 30.)

the most useful Subjects of the three Kingdoms to abandon their native Country, to enrich others, and ruin their own *.

532:

533:

544:

11. 'Tis computed that from the several Colonies belonging to the Crown in *America*, *Britain* receives a Balance † of 1,750,000 l.—They at least take off *one Half* of our Manufactures.

12. To what a Degree this Nation is really declining in Commerce, Wealth, and Power, and others increasing, hath appeared beyond Contradiction; and the same will be more and more glaringly conspicuous.

† Chap. 193
§. 91—96.
722.

13. We may appeal to the Judgment of every honest Man conversant in Trade, whether he does not experience OUR WOOLEN TRADE especially to decline † Year after Year.

14. I am informed of an Attempt in *France* to make the *Sheep* in that Kingdom produce in the general AS GOOD WOOL, that is to say, as good in *Quality* and *Staple* † as that of *England* and *Ireland*—That all royal Encouragement is given to this Design, and that the present Progress of it promises in the End, all desirable Success—If this Design should really be attended with the Prosperity aimed at, 'twould prove of far greater Detriment to the Trade of this Nation, than the clandestine Exportation of our Wool. And it should excite our Naturalists to think of Ways and Means so to manage our Sheep, that we may carry on our Manufactures without the Aid of *Spanish Wool*; which would go near to make us amends.

15. And 'tis allowed by our Woolen Manufacturers in general, that the Wool of *Lemster* in *Herefordshire*, is no way inferior to the *Segovia*

„Warburton's
Alliance.

* Although it would be endless to comment upon every of these Extracts from Mr. *Poſtlethwait*, and is impossible to make them all consistent; yet we can't forbear remarking on some; and particularly here, that *Zeal*, like most other good Things, is always best, when *full in Season*. And as we don't see any particular Reason for this warm *Apostrophe*; so we shall take leave in our Turn, to do *Britons* in general that Justice which Mr. *Poſtlethwait* scarce allows them, of not being niggardly towards the Ingenuity of Artificers, Mechanics and Manufacturers, provided they have Honesty and Industry; without which they are not useful at Home, or much desired abroad—Moreover the *Law* hath very wisely laid those of them who have an Itch for wandering, under every possible Discouragement; yet cannot all these altogether have so much Weight universally, that NO INDUCEMENT may preponderate, BECAUSE, as no Society CAN find a Fund sufficient † to reward extraordinarily ALL its Members for doing their Duty: So, whenever any one particular State shall pique itself upon tempting *Artizans* from another: The same *will not*, CANNOT fail, by strong Allurements (such as in a few Instances comparatively may be afforded, and which 'tis not practicable to countermine entirely) to prevail on some or other of them to *abandon their native Country*.

† No wonder if this occasions a Luxury at home in certain foreign Articles, sufficient to turn the Course of Exchange against us, with some Countries. (See § 4.)

‡ That is to say, as good *Wool*.

Wool

Wool of Spain *—It may therefore deserve our Consideration, how other Parts of *England* may be brought to yield us an ample Sufficiency of Wool, equal to that of *Segovia* †.

16. The Productions of *France*, as they are the Subjects of Commerce, are, Wines and their Produce, &c. &c. †. * Chap: 177.
§. 3.
808,

17. The Manufactures of *France* are 1. Silks, 2. Woolen Manufactures in Imitation of those of *England* †.

18. If it is possible in Nature, the *French* are determined to have as good Wool, and as much, of their own Production, as ever *England* and *Ireland* have had—We are apt to flatter ourselves with the Impossibility hereof; and certain it is, that *France* still labours under the Want of this essential Production, to the Degree that we have it—They have Wool indeed of their own Growth, in GREAT QUANTITIES, since the Success of their Woolen Manufactories, and in some Places, as with us, it is better than in others—But the best has been said not to be qualified for near so estimable a Manufacture, as ours in general; neither will it mix or work with the foreign || Wools so well—Yet this Disadvantage by Nature hath not discouraged this Nation from attempting the Woolen Manufactures in every Branch; for since they have not Wool so good in general as ours, they have been long determined to have our *English* and *Irish* Wool; and which being properly mixed with their own, or properly worked by itself, they have had Art enough to impose their Woolen Manufactures, upon several other Parts of *Europe*, even for *English* Fabrication §.

19. This supplying *France* with *English* and *Irish* Wool was first brought

* Our Woolen Manufacturers in general are as little acquainted with either the Wool of *Lamster* or *Segovia*, as the People of *England* in general are with the Woolen Manufacture—But in the last War and Prohibition of Trade with *Spain*, the Importation of Wool from that Kingdom was very soon thought proper to be admitted. And we have been informed from very good Hands, that during the very short Time it was prohibited, fine Cloths in *England* came to the Draper at *London*, not only 20 per Cent. dearer; but so much worse likewise, in the Whole a Difference of 40 per Cent.; whence it seems as if Mr. P. was in this Particular misinformed.

† Not a Word here of WOOL; which *France* produces in GREAT QUANTITIES. (See §. 18.)

‡ And alike in Imitation of *Holland* and *Spain*; even as the *English* also make Woolen Goods, to which they give *French*, † *German*, and other foreign Names. y Chap. 191.
§. 46, 47, 48.

|| The foreign Wools, May we not reasonably ask, what foreign Wools? Or whether these Words have here any distinct Meaning or not? If not, why are they used? If they have, why not a little more explained? z Chap. 102.
§. 7. Note.

§ To the Degree that we have it—has been said—in the general—properly mixed with, &c.—or properly wrought by itself—*English* Fabrication, &c. are all but so many Ways of qualifying an Untruth here intended, and in many other Places more expressly affirmed, viz. that the *French* and other foreign Woolen Manufactories are mainly supported by the Material from *England* and *Ireland*.

about

about by the indefatigable Endeavours and profound Policy of their great Minister *Colbert*; to whom we owe that pernicious Trade of *owling*, as it is called.—After which he was not long before he established Woolen Manufactories of divers Kinds in FRANCE, *facon d'Angleterre*.—

^a See Ch. 191. §. 42, &c. These were carried on with such prodigious Success, having decoyed by Rewards and Encouragements *English Artists* ^a in every Part of France, where it was most eligible, that in a few Years he not only excluded by Law from their Country the *English Woolen Manufactures*, but prepared to rival the *English* in all the foreign Markets of Europe; also in Asia and Africa; especially to Turkey and Barbary.

815.

20. Before, as well as since the *French King* begun those Fabrics in his Dominions, we sent large Quantities of Woolen Goods to France.—But since the clandestine Exportation of OUR WOOL to that Country, all Sorts of our Woolen Goods have been there prohibited *.—Add to this Melancholy Consideration, that the Woolen Manufactories of many other Countries are so improved and increased by means of foreign † Wools, and which Manufactures are said to be imposed on foreign Nations for *English Woolen Goods*.

21. The *French* more particularly play these Tricks. For though at Abbeville, in the superfine Manufacture of *Vanrobais* (which employs 108 Looms) there is no *English Wool* used—Yet if I am rightly informed, there is in that Place many different Sorts of STUFF made chiefly of *English*, and *Irish Wool*; which are most of them absolutely sold for *English Manufactures*. They being *facon de Angleterre*.^b

^b Chap. 193. §. 22. Note.

22. Nay it is said that “ an *English Ship* hath been known to lie in St. Valery Road, while they have sent a Boat up to Abbeville, which is near four Leagues, to fetch down Bales of Woolen Manufactures, and have shipped them on board the *English Vessels*, and carried them to foreign

^c Chap. 191. §. 41.

* But how prohibited? Not otherwise than by Duties^c—And here was the profound Policy of Mr. *Colbert*; while to the Folly of *England*, in trusting to a Prohibition in Words, rather than a Duty, that in Fact might have amounted to one, was principally owing to that pernicious Trade of *Owling*.

† Foreign Wools—Mr. *Postlethwait* minces the Matter, in Favour to the *Northamptonshire Manufacturer*, Author of “ *Observations on British Wool, &c.*” (He is here transcribing from; and whom he is unwilling to discredit) who calls it OUR WOOL; and says that Goods so made were of late sent to be sold in *Holland* from “ some Part of the German & Dominions;” meaning plainly what Mr. *Postlethwait* did not chuse to repeat in the same Words; and which, in short, is not at all likely, for several Reasons; and especially this, that good Wool is there, a Commodity for Exportation^e.

^d Chap. 140. §. 6.

^e Chap. 183. §. 23, 45.

“ Mar-

“Markets for *English Goods*—the Bales being marked and numbered as if they were marked in *England*, and are sold AMONGST OUR ENGLISH GOODS.”

23. And it is very much to be feared, that this is too common a Case, and has been an Artifice of many Years standing, to impose these *French Woolen Manufactures* FACON D'ANGLETERRE upon foreign Nations, for *English*; and those too not so good; MERELY TO PREJUDICE THE REPUTATION OF OURS—Nor could a more superlative * Trick be contrived than this, let it be taken in any Light whatever; for the absolute Ruin of our WOOLEN MANUFACTURES, and Establishment of the FRENCH.

24. At *Nismes* in *Languedoc*, CLOTHS, by means of ENGLISH WORKMEN and ENGLISH WOOL † are made so admirably well, that some have thought they have equalled, if not outdone the *English*. † See Ch. 167. §. 3, 10, 11.

25. Of late Years, they make at *Montpelier*, *Nismes* *Castres*, and other Cities of lower *Languedoc*, *Perpetuana's*, in Imitation of the *English*. Of these there is one Species LESS FINE †, mostly made in *England*, and sent into *Spain*; chiefly for the *Indies*. 819.

26. It

* To believe thus much with Mr. P., we for our Parts, should in all Lights think to be superlative Folly: For, consider in this Case, who were the Persons to be imposed upon? Not Merchants, to whom the Bales were consigned, since they must needs know with whom they traded: Nor wholesale Traders with them, because the imposing of worse Goods on those for better, would soon be a Forfeiture of their Confidence and Custom: Nor Retail Buyers, who see nothing of the Package, are not supposable to judge of Drapery by Marks, but by its Appearances in other Regards; in short, by the Sight and Feeling of it——Observe therefore, Mr. P, recurring to the Narrative (§. 22.) relates further upon the same Authority, how one *Daniel Shallone*, a *Dutchman*, Partner with three others, two of them *French*, the other of his own Name and Country, in a large Manufactory of *Serge-Royals*, *Druggets*, *Shalloons* and *Cloth Serges*, did declare to this Informant, that “they had Goods then in *Italy* and *Messina*, but was obliged to take off the Town Mark before they sent them abroad, and so ship them on board some *English Vessels*”—WHY? “Because there was a LARGE DUTY on *French Woolen Goods* in those Parts; for which Reason they COULD NOT send any thither, but under the Notion of *English Manufactories*.”—And we shall hereafter (§. 42.) see a like Reason assigned for *French Cloths* being carried to *Portugal* under ENGLISH MARKS, &c.—Consequently in the same Manner is to be construed what we have read (§. 22.) and whatever other fictitious Marking and Package hath at any Time been practised by the French or others; altho' Mr. P, inclining commonly on this Head, to the marvellous and apocryphal, thinks the nameless pretended Northamptonshire Woolen Manufacturer, his Author, hath asserted differently, with such Circumstances, that we must credit him in that Particular, notwithstanding we should not believe the Whole of his Observations and History; and which in one remarkable Instance, Mr. P. might have seen to be utterly false; but surely, if he had, would not have called him, as he does, the HONEST Northamptonshire Woolen Manufacturer. (See Chap. 193. §. 53. 4, 5.) § Chap. 140. §. 18, 19.

† This Section is taken from Mr. Savary, though at the second Hand ^b. And on these Words, LESS FINE, Mr. Postlethwait hath given the following Comment “Here let the Reader observe how the Frenchman depreciates the *English Perpetuana's* WITHOUT CAUSE, in order to recommend those of his Country to the Spaniards.”——But if this was not so, Mr. Savary's saying it, would stand very little with Traders, who govern themselves, not by what they read in Chap. 156. §. 17.

870.

26. It is computed that the *French* draw from *Britain* and *Ireland*, in WOOL and CASH, one Million yearly, by Cambrics, Tea, Brandy, and Wine.

875.

27. The Ingredients generally used in fulling Cloths and Woolen Stuffs, are Urine, Soap, Fullers Earth. Soap alone, if it was not dearer, would do much better than Earth—But a Water softned with Chalk is far preferable.

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28. When *France* first * attempted the Establishment of their Woolen Manufactures, they had every Difficulty to struggle with; but gradually made their Way, and now share the Woolen Trade with us in all Parts of the World.

262.

29. IN HOW SUPERIOR A POST OR FIGURE, as we say, DO OUR TRADESMEN LIVE, TO WHAT THE MIDDLE GENTRY EITHER DO OR CAN SUPPORT? (See Chap. 193. §. 28. 29.)

307.

30. The *British Empire* has for many Years past enjoyed an adventitious, or artificial Traffic. We have been employed by ALL THE WORLD in the *Woolen Manufacture*—But other Nations have begun, of late, to cloath themselves and their Neighbours too—It is a fond Fancy in us to imagine there are no *fleecy Sheep* in the World but *our own*; or that the rest of Mankind will not learn the Mystery of *working in Wool*—We feel this Trade decreasing; and yet there are those among us who would argue against Demonstrationⁱ—But when they hope by any Laws of *Great Britain* to hinder foreign Nations from falling into the Woolen Manufacture, they may as well solicit an Act of Parliament to prevent their Grass to grow, and to intercept their Sunshine. Some imagine that we are secure in this Trade against the Endeavours of ALL FOREIGNERS: Say they, we make better Goods than *can* be made with *any* foreign Wool, *unless it be mixed with ours*. Be it so †. But then does our great Wealth and Income by that Trade consist only in our finest Goods? Have not

ⁱ Chap. 193.
§. 98.^h Chap. 180.
§. 5. Note.

in Books, but what they learn from Experience—Mr. *Postlethwait* should have considered that these *French Perpetuans* being made of *Spanish Wool*, that was a probable Cause of their being MORE FINE^h than the *English*—He might have reflected on what he adds immediately after from the same Authority, that “Says made at *Turcoin*, very fine, were all of Wool of *Segovia* “*via* or *England*,” when those of the former must needs excel the latter; the *Wools* of *Segovia* being certainly by far the finest in *Europe*.

* When did *France* FIRST attempt the Woolen Manufacture? This is a Matter commonly mistaken; certainly, not in the Time of Mr. *Colbert*, as according to Mr. *Postlethwait*, and several other Writers. (See Chap. 191. §. 43, &c.)

† But what if it be not so? And certainly it is not.

the *English* Merchants complained, that *Ireland* has undersold us in coarse Goods at *Lisbon*? That because their Wares are coarse, they can be afforded cheaper, therefore they have a ready Market, while ours that are finer, but dearer, may rot in the Warehouse? What says our *Russia Company*? Has not *Prussia* supplanted us in the cloathing of the *Muscovite* Army? Who can be ignorant of the Extensiveness of the Woolen^a Manufactories of *France*? We have sent armed Sloops to check the *Irish*; but who will restrain the *French*, *Germans* and *Prussians*? The Multitude don't much value the Fineness of their Garments, they only desire to be warm; it is the cloathing of the Millions that produces the Millions of Money; and this is what other Countries will certainly have their Share in. (Compare this with §. 9. Note.

^a See
Chap. 155—
167.
Dict. of Com.
Vol. I. p. 818.
—24.

31. *A short Account of the Commerce of Portugal, lately given by* (as Mr. P. styles him) *a judicious PATRIOT MERCHANT.* 512.

“ From *Portugal* Wool used to be exported in considerable Quantities—But the Extraction of it is now prohibited—However, there is Reason to believe, the *Dutch* get a good deal of it off still, under the Name of *Spanish Wool*, by the Help of forged Certificates, and false Swearing; of which bad Practice, the *Portuguese* make as little Scruple, for Gain, as even the worst of our own Countrymen.

32. “ From *Holland* are imported to [*Portugal*] FINE THIN WOOLEN CLOTHS, &c. 513.

33. “ The Exports from *Portugal* for *Holland* are Wool (under Certificates of its being *Spanish*) &c.”

34. “ The *French* send to *Portugal* FINE WOOLEN CLOTHS, various Kinds of STUFFS; particularly a Sort of black Goods called *Druggets*; of which they sell immense Quantities for the Habits of the Clergy; having thereby entirely destroyed the Consumption of *English* Crape, once a very important Article of OUR TRADE.

35. “ By the Help of Wool smuggled from us, the *French* have made Attempts to rival us in *Portugal*, in our very great Article of ^b long Bays; but hitherto without Success.” ^b See Ch. 104. §. 8.

36 “ The Exports from *England* to *Portugal* are long Bays of all Kinds, ⁵¹⁴ Colchester Bays, *Spanish*, *Yorkshire*, and some few *Gloucester* CLOTHS; long Eils, Shalloons, Says, Serges; Spittle Fields, *Norwich* and *Coventry* STUFFS of various Kinds, and *Worsted* Stockings.”

37. " From *Ireland*, some *ordinary Camlets*.
 516. 38. " In no Article of the *Portugal Commerce* does *Great Britain* enjoy
 " any Preference, or receive any Favour ; but on the contrary, in the
 " Branch of FINE CLOTHS, a manifest Injury, CONTRARY TO TREATIES
 " For Example, The *Treaty* made between *Queen Anne* and *Peter II.* of
 " *Portugal*, consisting but of two Articles (except the Preamble and Con-
 " clusion) and those being short ones, I shall here give them entire to
 " the Public."

ARTICLE I.

39. " His sacred Royal Majesty of *Portugal* promises both in his own
 " Name, and that of his Successors, to admit *for ever* hereafter into *Por-
 " tugal*, the WOOLEN CLOTHS, and the rest of the WOOLEN MANUFAC-
 " TURES of the *Britons*, as was accustomed till they were prohibited by
 " the Laws ; nevertheless upon this Condition ; that is to say,"

ARTICLE II.

- 40 " That her sacred Majesty of *Great Britain*, and her Successors shall
 " be obliged for ever, to admit the Wines of *Portugal* into *Great Britain*,
 " for one Third less Duty than shall be exacted on *French* Wines imported."
 41. " I must here observe, that the Cloth Trade is not the only Arti-
 " cle to which we have an EXCLUSIVE RIGHT ; because the Treaty mani-
 " festly gives it for WOOLEN GOODS IN GENERAL ; and such was the
 " Right that we accordingly did enjoy, till the *Dutch* Consul, Mr. *Hef-
 " terman*, found means of explaining it away in favour of his Nation ;
 " who thereupon began introducing DUTCH CLOTHS, now increased to
 " a great Trade."
 42. " And the *French* have since taken the like Advantage of our Su-
 " pineness, to traffic in CLOTHS to *Portugal*, though in Secret ; and the
 " better to cover it, THEIR CLOTHS go with *English* Marks, Tickets and
 " Package, though they are well enough known ; and as to any other
 " Kinds of FRENCH WOOLEN GOODS, they are imported openly, and in very
 " great Quantities. (See §. 22, 23, Note.)
 43. " From the Sense of the Treaty it should seem clear that we have
 " the SOLE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT of importing Woolen Goods of ALL KINDS
 " into

“ into Portugal—The French have NO TREATY, no Privileges, but from
 “ Favour; yet do THEIR MERCHANTS gain Ground on ours every Day.”

REMARK.

Mr. P. files this Writer, whom we suppose to have been in the Portugal Trade, a JUDICIOUS PATRIOT MERCHANT. And an angry one he plainly was, for some Reason or another; but not so clearly, methinks, judicious; nor even Mr. P. himself, in so accounting him. At least, that does not appear from his Manner of making out for Britain, an exclusive Right of Trade in CLOTHS, &c. to PORTUGAL. That Kingdom had prohibited the Cloths of England, in 1660: In 1680, all foreign ones: In 1703, had admitted for ever, by Treaty, the Cloths, and all other Woolens of Britain—Not so, by that, or (suppose) any Treaty, the Cloths of other States or Kingdoms—Yet not having bound herself by Treaty with Britain, to EXCLUDE them, 'twas natural for the Sake of her own Subjects, to connive at their being imported, in order to avoid a Monopoly. THIS, our Merchant says, is contrary to the Sense of our Treaty with Portugal. But how can that be the Sense of a Treaty, which, as cited above, there is not a single Word to support? Or on the Part of Portugal, what Sense would there have been in such a Treaty, as our Patriot Merchant most illogically, but very confidently pretends?—Unfortunately for this Subject, beyond all others, Persons seemingly think themselves warranted in uttering about it the grossest Absurdities!

For the Matter of DRAPERY, Portugal had obliged herself to take the BRITISH WOOLENS universally; but plainly, without tying up her own Hands from those of other Countries also; which must have been the Case, if this Merchant's Complaint had been at all well founded.

Next, as to the Article, Wool, had we the like distinct Account of the interior State of Portugal, that Don Geronymo de Ustariz hath given of Spain; seemingly from this Merchant, we should find the Circumstances, Laws, and Usages of both Kingdoms nearly, if not altogether the same on this Head: Accordingly, that in Portugal there are two Sorts of Wool, fine and ordinary; the fine, esteemed as Spanish, permitted; the other, as in Spain, prohibited to be exported—yet suffered by Connivance to pass abroad, under Colour of its being of the finer Sort, i. e. TECHNICALLY Spanish Wool.

See Ch. 152.
 §. 14. Chap.
 179. §. 3.
 §. 10.

Let us see next Mr. P. himself concerning our Portugal Trade.

522.

44. One Thing is to be noted of the *Portugal Trade*, viz. that having no Manufacture worth naming, wherewith to carry on their Affairs to all their remote Settlements; and where they have infinitely more People to supply than their whole Country in *Europe* contains, all their Ships therefore go loaded with the Product and Manufacture of other Nations (just as the *Spaniards* do to *New Spain*) such as those of *England*, *France*, *Holland* and *Hamburg*; and as the *English* have the greatest Opportunity to oblige THEM: So the greatest Quantities of *English Manufacture* have heretofore been sent to them, which they have again exported to all those remote Parts. All these confirm how greatly the Trade of *Portugal* is increased in a few Years; insomuch that it is apparent, *Portugal alone* has taken off more *English Goods* yearly, within the last forty Years, than both *Spain* and *Portugal* took off together, any Year before. (*Compare this with §. 4, 12, 13.*)

599.

45. *Of the State of the Trade of England from the Conquest to W. III.*

The *English Nation* remained much in the same State, respecting Trade and Navigation, from the Time of *William the Conqueror* to the Accession

* See Ch. 122.

§. 1. Note.

Chap. 188.

§. 18. 14.

Chap. 189.

§. 5, 6.

645.

of Queen *Elizabeth* to the Crown of *England*; which then consisted chiefly in transporting Tin, Lead, * Wool, Iron and other Productions, sufficient to purchase what foreign Commodities they wanted.

46. The *Czar* brought the *Russians*, especially those about his Court, to cloath themselves after the *German Fashion*; for which Purpose the Manufactures of *England*, *Scotland*, &c. were introduced, as well at *Petersburgh*, as at *Moscow*, in prodigious Quantities.

47. This put him upon resolving, after the Example of the *Swedes*, *Prussians* and *Saxons*, to introduce the making and manufacturing of all those CLOTHS and STUFFS which his Subjects were then beginning to * wear, and to have them ALL made in his Dominions.

48. Nor was it an unlikely Undertaking, in that he had an EASY SUPPLY OF WOOL out of *Poland* and *Saxony*, especially of the first, SUFFICIENT

f See

Ch. 120, §. 4. FOR THOSE WORKS. f

Ch. 121. § 1.

779.

49. Because *Great Britain* and *Ireland* abound with such immense Quantities of WOOL, which is of a Quality superior to ALL OTHER IN THE WORLD

§ Ch. 18. §. 8.

Note.

Ch. 190. §. 5

Ch. 191.

§. 17.

* Beginning to wear: The *English Muscovy Company* was established under *Philip* and *Mary*; and had a vast Trade for Cloth & there; which before the *Russians* got by the Way of *Narva* in *Germany*, and the Countries of *Poland*.

WORLD for the Fabric of general * *Manufactures*: Therefore it behoves the Wisdom of the Nation duly to cherish and encourage every Manufacture that has a Tendency to the Consumption of this Commodity amongst ourselves.

50. With Relation to the *Spanish* Trade, the *French* have got the Start 780. of *Britain* in ALL the finer Sorts of Woolen Goods, by making them as fine to the Eye, and not of half the Substance as the *British Superfines*: THEREFORE they can afford to sell them much cheaper than *ours* *. [Thus] ^k Ch. 148. the *French* finding they could not make Cloth of so good a Quality as the ^{§. 27, 28.} *British*, very judiciously attempted to out-do them by Cheapness; which they have effected. +

51. A Memorial (1701) of Deputies in the Council of Trade, for the ^{813.} trading Towns in the West of France, for laying open the French Levant Trade, confined only to MARSEILLES.

“ It would be more advantageous for *France* to permit us, the Towns
“ of the West to carry on this Trade, (because) WE have, AS WELL AS
“ the *English*, WOOLEN CLOTHS, STUFFS, &c.

* Mr. P. (§. 30) hath observed truly enough to this Effect, viz. that for general common Use, almost every Country, besides producing the Material, WOOL, had the Art to manufacture it. And therefore it would have been to more Purpose, could he have said (what cannot be affirmed with Truth) that there are certain particular Manufactures, of no inconsiderable Use, which, without *English* Wool or *Irish*, or at least, without a Mixture of one or the other, neither are, nor can be made. Again, was our Wool, *British* and *Irish*, of a Quality so very superior, as he represents, to ALL OTHER IN THE WORLD, what occasion is there for pressing so earnestly the Consumption of Manufacture from it amongst ourselves, when 'twould methinks be marketable throughout the World?—He is certainly right in recommending the Consumption of our own Woolen Manufacture amongst ourselves—but hath as certainly assigned the wrong Reason for our so doing; 'tis the very Reason which hath been given, for every false Measure taken, or attempted on this Head, since the RESTORATION, (see particularly Ch. 193. § 6—11. Note).

† Although it is very conceivable that foreign made Cloth, less substantial than common in *England*, from the same Wool, purchased on like Terms, may be afforded at a lower Price: Yet there is nothing in this, but what is daily the Practice of *English* Manufacturers among themselves; who striving constantly to out-do each other by Dint of Cheapness, debase in course, the Commodities they make, so far as, being unrestrained by Law, they well can. If therefore the *French* have really got the Start of *Britain*, in superfine Goods of *Spanish* Wool, for the *Spanish* Trade, by the Means and in the Manner Mr. P. here mentions; 'tis not thence to be concluded, with him, that this is done because they are not able to make their Goods of so good a Quality, as the *English* do; for what should hinder them? But it is more probably owing (besides the Artifice of it) to a Difference of the Statutes on that Head of Drapery, in one Kingdom and the other. Certainly at least, for the Matter of Workmanship, the *French* in various Parts of that Kingdom, have long thought themselves able to vie with the *English*, both in Cloth and Stuffmaking, (see §. 51, 52.) Again, why, if the Laws do not hinder, should the *English* lose Ground to the *French*, even supposing the latter cannot make Cloth so good as the former? Since either they are certainly capable of making Cloths illight and bad as the *French* do, and yet as fine to the Eye, or else the *French* have an Art in Cloth making, beyond the *English*; which is a Point that Mr. P. will be loth to admit.

52. *The Deputy of Marseilles, in Answer to the foregoing, and in Defence of the exclusive Privilege enjoyed by that Town in trading to the Levant.*

"Marseilles has a very particular and advantageous Situation and Proximity to the Levant—She has in her Town, her Province, and in those of Languedoc and Dauphine, ALL SORTS OF MANUFACTURES proper for the Levant."

N. B. *If here it is asked, what are Manufactures proper for the Levant? We answer from Mr. Huet¹, They are "Cloths and other Woolen Stuffs."—In both which, the Western, as well as Southern Provinces of France appear to have been well qualified for the Levant Trade in and before the Year 1701; contrary to what we have seen publickly asserted by a Person of no little Eminence, viz. "Before the Peace^m of Utrecht, we had no Rival in the Woolen Manufacture Trade, but the Dutch."*

¹Ch. 94.
§. 29.

^mCh. 133.
§. 1.

C H A P. CLXXXV.

From Mr. Postlethwait's DICTIONARY of COMMERCE, under the Words WOOL, and WOOLEN MANUFACTORY.

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1. **U**NDER the Articles, *Biscay*, &c. we have shewn the extraordinary Progress that both *France* and *Spain*, and many other States, have made, and are daily making in the *Woolen Manufactories*. We have occasionally endeavoured to point out the Cause of our Loss thereby, together with the Means of retrieving it.

2. And as many have endeavoured, by Variety of Schemes, to prevent that principal Cause, the Runnage of Wool to *France*; especially from *Ireland*: So among others who have attempted this, the judicious Mr. *Bradshaw* hath lately obliged the Public with something that merits very great Regard; and therefore a short Abstract of what this Gentleman has offered, may have its Use.

REMARK.

3. Mr P. in the Course of his large Work, had frequently referred to what wou'd appear under the Words, Wool and Woolen Manufacture.

4. For

4. For the former, besides his own Additions and Improvements, he had we knew, not a little to render into English, from Mr. Savary: And with regard to the latter, had promisedⁿ to "treat it in a different and moreⁿ extensive Light, when he should come to THAT HEAD."ⁿ VOL. I. P. 515.

5. Our Curiosity having been thus excited, even to a Wonder, how he would finally manage between his Fondness for certain Tenets dropped by the Way, and his Fidelity as a Translator, when arrived in alphabetical Order to the Word, Wool, in particular—After having waited with a longing Impatience to see what his Ultimatum would be, he appears to have slipped through his Hands those Knots, which 'twas conceived he would attempt, though judged very difficult for him, to untie.

6. This is mentioned, not from any Prejudice to Mr. P. For though we can't concur with him in many Points relating to our Subject, which we have endeavoured to understand; and think he has not made sufficiently the Object of his careful Researches: Yet would we not thence be thought to disparage his whole Performance; in many other Regards, no doubt, of considerable Use.

7. Perfection indeed is very desirable, and commonly expected in a Dictionary; although that is hardly to be looked for at the Hands of a single Compiler, who, as his Knowledge can't be universal: so he must necessarily take many Things upon Trust. And Mr. Postlethwait's Failures on this Head, seem to have been (like Mr. Chambers on the same, in his Cyclopædia^o) a Reliance^o on Authorities, not the best.

^o See
Ch. 150.
N te. §. 8.
Note.

8. It may indeed be said in Excuse for them both, that intelligent honest English Writers on Wool and the Woolen Trade, being but few in Comparison, they had the greater Chance to fall into wrong Hands. But at the same Time it must be granted, that Mr. Postlethwait had means of Information, which Mr. Chambers had not: Yet hath he so frequently chose for his Guides, the most blind, naturally, or wilfully such, that the same is not easy to be accounted for, except on the Supposition of himself being under too strong a Bias one Way. And to this most probably are to be imputed, 1st, his Omissions under the Article WOOL. 2dly, His inserting under that of Woolen Manufacture, not only, preferably to, but instead of, every Thing else, HIS TRANSCRIPT OF MR. BRADSHAW.

9. If here it is asked, what are Mr. Postlethwait's Omissions? We answer, under the Article, WOOL, he hath not only omitted SOME, but ALL THINGS; every Syllable of what is contained in Mr. Savary under the Word Laine;

^p Ch. 151-3. *to the Amount of several ^p Pages: He hath passed over in total Silence the British Merchant on that Head; and been equally regardless of these Memoirs, though a select History upon the Subject. In a Word, under this Article he hath said just nothing at all. And WHY? Unless because he had come too near the End of his Numbers; Or because none of the abovementioned tallied with what he had before delivered for Sterling Truths, from other Writers, more to his own Taste.*

10. *From Mr. Savary, for Example, it might have appeared (contrary to what himself hath repeated, at the least four Times) that England and Ireland are very far from FURNISHING ALL THE WORLD WITH WOOL.*—That besides what is there grown, and besides the Wools of Spain, Portugal, and France, there are those of Holland, Germany, the North, Lorrain, and the Levant—He might from Mr. Savary have informed his English Reader, that the “Commerce of Wool is one most considerable Branch of “Trade in Amsterdam—And that the most distinct Account of it is to be*
^q Chap. 153. *“seen in the Traite le Negoce ^q d’Amsterdam, published 1722;” which Account Mr. Savary had therefore transcribed into his Dictionary; and which*
^{§. 2.} *contains a very curious Catalogue, of no fewer than about FORTY different*
^r Chap. 172. *Wools, ^r with their Prices respectively at Amsterdam, about the latter End of July 1719 †—He might farther have taken Notice of what The British Merchant hath said, viz. that “the French particularly, without coming*
^s Chap. 105. *“to us, can be in NO WANT OF WOOL FOR ANY KIND OF WORK.” And*
^{§. 12., 14.} *in Memoirs of Wool he might have seen several other Facts of Consequence; which seeing, it would have been incumbent on him to have mentioned, in some Way or another. To the Author (who wishes nothing more than to have this Subject thoroughly scrutinized) it would have been indifferent, whether he had reasoned from those Facts, in like Manner with himself, or not. But it is not so (as he has been at great Pains to undeceive his Country grossly imposed upon by a long Chain of false History about it) to find Mr. Savary rather labouring to continue those Delusions upon the present Generation, and in Course to entail the same on their Posterity.*

* And he might have seen elsewhere, ’twas equally false (which he had said as often) that they (the English) “HAVE THE LEAST OF THE MANUFACTURING OF IT AMONG THEMSELVES.”

^t Ch. 184.
§. 3.

† None of them English or Irish; but the most of them at a higher Price than the Generality of English Wools in England then were.

Thus

Thus much for Mr. B's Omissions, under the Article, Wool.

11. Next, *Why under that of Woolen Manufacture did he chuse to stuff his Dictionary with a single Pamphlet of little Note, if any, not only preferably to, but instead of every Thing else? For it is to be observed, this Tract, with which Mr. P. tells us, the Public had, but lately, been obliged by Mr. Bradshaw, was printed, though without a Date, for R. Franklin, Ruffel-Street, Covent Garden, and so published in the Year 1745, under the long Title of "A Scheme to prevent the Running of IRISH WOOLS to FRANCE" and IRISH WOOLEN GOODS to foreign Countries, by prohibiting the Importation of SPANISH WOOLS into IRELAND, and permitting the People of IRELAND to send THEIR Woolen Goods to ENGLAND (not for Consumption, but Re-exportation) under a DUTY at Importation, to be drawn back on Exportation from ENGLAND to foreign Countries:*

"BY A MERCHANT OF LONDON."

In October 1754, was advertised to be published the next Day (by Griffiths)

"A Scheme to prevent the Running of Wool:

"BY MR. BRADSHAW^b."

Which last, when compared with the other, was found to be exactly the same; all but the Title Page, a single Leaf tacked to those identical Sheets that had been published by Franklin, TEN YEARS BEFORE: This passed with us at that Time, for a Piece of low Craft in the Author or Bookseller—But if such new Publication was with another View, viz. for the Sake of palming it upon Mr. P. to be inserted in his Dictionary: The Plot, in that Case, was different from what we had imagined. Mr. P. we are ready to believe, was in some Measure thus far imposed upon; but whereas he calls his Transcript a SHORT ABSTRACT from that Gentleman, he has, except a few Pages in the Beginning, copied the Whole verbatim: Of which to give some Account in this Place.

12. *The old (long) Title Page is a Summary of its Contents; or rather, of this notable Scheme, by MR. BRADSHAW; which Mr. P. thinks to merit such very great Regard.*

13. *The first and principal Argument of it, for prohibiting the Importation of SPANISH WOOL into IRELAND, is, that the making of Spanish Cloths THERE, is a very unprofitable Employment; for which Reason the Irish had better buy the same from ENGLAND; where (mark the Consistency) of all other Manufactures, "it is the most profitable, deserving therefore the "greatest Attention."*

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Q q

14. NEXT

^a See Ch. 83.
§. 7. Note.
Chap. 85. §.
10. Ch. 126.
§. 13. Note.
Ch. 174. §. 7.
^b See
Ch. 182.
§. 1. 1744-5.

14. NEXT, *and why the ENGLISH should not be uneasy with Exportation of Irish Woolen Manufactures to foreign Parts, upon the Terms by him proposed, he urges THEIR present Practice of RUNNING RAW WOOL TO FRANCE, by every one Pack of which, or of ENGLISH WOOL, the French (he says) "are enabled to work up two of their own, which would be otherwise "USELESS for foreign Markets, notwithstanding the Wools France procures "from GERMANY, PORTUGAL, BARBARY and TURKEY."*

15. *And the Proof of this stale, incredible Position, he rests upon the following also false Assertion: viz. "When the Plague raged at MARSEILLES, the WOOLS of ENGLAND and IRELAND were insufficient to supply the Demands abroad for our Woollen Manufactures."*

16. He has not said indeed, in so many Words, with some others, that the Price of English Wool in England rose accordingly at this Juncture, But what he hath asserted, is tantamount; because, if true, THAT must infallibly have been the Case. WOOL must have advanced to a very high Pitch: The Reverse whereof hath been made so very evident in MEMOIRS ^c OF WOOL, that

^c Chap. 171. 'tis strange if Mr. Postlethwait did not see it, who appears to have had the

^{N^o. 1, 2, 3, 4.} Volumes before him; more strange if, notwithstanding, that, he still chose to

^{Ch. 174.} give Mr. Bradshaw Credit in this particular; since the Plan of his Work being,

TO ACCOMMODATE IT TO THE INTEREST OF THESE KINGDOMS, he

could not possibly hope to succeed in his Design, otherwise than by searching after

^a Ch. 194. and giving into the Truth of ^a Things, wherever the same was to be found.

17. WHEREFORE, and because WOOL, and the WOOLEN TRADE, are to Britain a capital Part of its Produce and Commerce, 'twas incumbent on Mr. Postlethwait to have endeavoured to treat them with the utmost Precision; to have bestowed some Pains and Paper about them, more than he has done; in order to have exhibited, not partially by Fits and Starts, but fairly in one View, and in its proper Place, that is, under their respective Heads, an Account of BOTH, that should have carried with it some very clear Information, explicit Opinion or distinct Meaning.—At least, by the very Tenor of his Title Page, he ought to have translated literally, Mr. Savary, under the Article, Wool, especially. But from his Omission herein, we conclude that, besides its not being his own most favourite Study, he presumed, not a little, upon the general Indifference of Readers, who are in truth very incurious, vastly sparing of their Time and Attention towards this, as a dry, tasteless and illiberal Subject; for which Reason, against the common Propensity of human Nature, it

wants the Heart even of those to whom it constitutes a principal Share of their Treasure—ON THESE CONSIDERATIONS, we shall endeavour to make the History of it a little more palatable than hitherto, in some following Chapters.

C H A P. CLXXXVI.

MEMOIRS OF WOOL *reduced into a shorter History, divided into several Periods of Time, for the Ease of certain Readers, with some Remarks.*

P R E F A C E.

1. *WHAT makes this Subject respectable enough to write and read upon, is the due POLICY about it. And that affords a material Disquisition, in one Point especially; which, though often brought upon the Tapis, hath never yet had a fair and full Hearing; namely, with regard to the Wools of England and Ireland, how in the best Manner to prevent or restrain the exporting of them raw to foreign Countries?—A Matter of continual Uneasiness in this Kingdom, ever since the Year 1660! **

• Ch. 182.
§. 1.

2. *THIS, besides other Reasons, is an Argument that in truth, Measures most eligible for the Purpose have not been taken within that long Period. Indeed, to form a right Judgment, after a Multitude of public Acts, for THAT END—After sundry repeated Stirrages ON THIS HEAD, both of the People, in Parliament, and by the Press, requires a Deduction of many Particulars, which Gentlemen, 'tis said, being not sufficiently inclined to pick out from the foregoing Chapters, and connect for themselves, as they might do; 'tis therefore intended, by a closer Arrangement, to bring them nearer to Observation; in order, if possible, to attach THEIR Notice, whom they most interestingly concern.*

* When, instead of a Duty on Wool, if exported, which had been the standing Policy, for THREE HUNDRED YEARS successively, was substituted by Act of Parliament, an ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION. And therefore a principal Point for Examination is, which of the two can be thought *nationally* best? And though this is to be judged in Part from the Nature and Reason of Things, yet not so well, without a familiar Knowledge of several pertinent Facts. And a Pity it is, if not some Shame, since the People of this Nation are almost universally POLITICIANS, able and fit, to a Man, in their own Opinions, to be of the Cabinet, and equally knowing as if they were so, that Gentlemen particularly do not bend a Share of their Thoughts towards this Subject; by means whereof they might do a real Service to themselves and THE COUNTRY INTEREST rightly so called.

Q q 2,

3. And

3. *And although, regarding what hath gone before, it may be objected to this which follows, that being in some sort a Duplicate of the same, 'tis a Reason why one of them might have been spared: Yet we answer, besides what is already said for the latter, that, deriving its WHOLE AUTHORITY from the former, THEY have each of them their Use; and may very fitly go together.*

In a word, it having been remarked to the Author, as a principal Fault in Memoirs of Wool, that most Persons are unwilling to bestow the Time and Attention requisite in perusing them: Therefore, to help the Memory, and relieve the Impatience of such Readers, is given the following Abridgment; by means whereof, together with those References to be found in the Margin, they may have their Choice, of being implicit, or scrutinous, just as they see Cause, or happen to be disposed.

C H A P. CLXXXVII.

From the Creation of the World to the Reign of Richard I.

1. **S**HEEP are one Species of Cattle, which God in the first Generation of Things commanded the Earth to produce and sustain, with a Power to increase and multiply after their Kind. Of these, *Abel*, the
§ Ch. I. §. 2. second Son of our grand Parent *Adam*, became eminently a ^f Keeper:
§ Gen. iv. 20. And, after him, *Cain's* Grandson, ^g *Jabab*: THEY were, no doubt, become very numerous before *the Flood*; but all perished in *those Waters*, except a
h Gen. vii. 2. Reserve of Seven ^h in the *Ark*: One, as is supposed, for the Sacrifice which *Noah* was afterwards to offer: the other *six*, to replenish the *new World*, by breeding abundantly, in Proportion to their future Use for the Service of God and Man; *viz.* Their Carcases for Sacrifice and Food; their Wool and *Skins*, for cloathing *Noah* and his Descendants. *As such*, they constituted no small Part of the Wealth and Grandeur of the greatest Person-
i Ch. I. §. 1. ages in the *Old* ⁱ *Testament*; where likewise are short Hints about *spinning*
2. *Wool*, *weaving*, *fulling*, and *dying* ^k *Cloth*. THESE, chiefly in *Egypt* and
k §. 3. *Asia*; that Part of the Globe having been first peopled; whence succeeding Generations spread themselves by Degrees throughout the Face of the whole

whole Earth: Art and Science: Some Animals and Vegetables following, though but slowly, and by unequal Paces.

¹Ch. 2. Note.

2. The next Writers ¹ (from the sacred Penmen) who make mention of *these Cattle*, their End and Use, their Kinds and Qualities, extend the History of them from *Asia* to *Greece*, *Italy*, *Portugal*, and *Gaul*; deriving still the Original of *Woolen Manufacture* from *Egypt* and the most *Eastern* Parts of the World. Their Accounts indeed, like most others that go far back into Antiquity, are but brief and superficial: Wherefore, the learned *Huetius* writing an *History* ^m which he intitled, *Of the Commerce*, as ^m Ch. 3. well as *Navigation of the Antients*, was but very sparingly furnished with these Kind of Memoirs; rather of naval Exploits. And albeit, we must suppose that, besides *Food*, MATERIALS for *Raiment* were no inconsiderable Articles of Exchange between the Nations of which he treats; yet hath he distinguished (in *Europe*) under the Heads of *Wool* and *Cloth*, only ⁿ *Spain*, and ^o *Poland*: And for what relates to *Britain*, he speaks rather negatively, by assigning to the Island and its Inhabitants, with some ⁿ Chap. 3. §. 18. Degree of Minuteness, other Produce and ^p Traffic, without a single Word ^o §. 19. of either, or so much as *SHEEP*; whereof the Country most probably contained none, or but very few, till some Time after the *Romans* possessed, ^p §. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17. or perhaps had left it: The first Mention of *Sheep* in *English* Records or History, being not till about the Beginning of the *eighth* ^q Century. ^qCh. 4. §. 4.

3. And though the Silence of Chronicles is far from being a full Proof in this Case, yet there is Reason to think they could not be very numerous before *Edgar* ^r the peaceable took such effectual Measures to compass ^rCh. 4. §. 7. the Destruction of their great Destroyers, *Wolves*, that there was not one of those ravenous Creatures left in the Kingdom. This happened about the Middle of the *tenth* Century; after which, in a little more than two hundred Years, viz. in the Reign of *Richard I.* THEY were so far increased, that *Wool* was become a capital Commodity ^s of the Nation. ^s Chap. 4. §. 13.

REMARK.

4. Here then let it be considered, à priori, how far the Notion is likely to be well founded, which attributes to England and Ireland not only a vast Superiority beyond all other Parts of the Earth, in Sheep and Wool, but almost the sole Power of furnishing Mankind with that necessary for cloathing,
WOOLEN

WOOLEN MANUFACTURE—If *THIS* be really the peculiar happy Circumstance of these two Kingdoms, may we not well enquire (the Premises especially considered) by what Accident or Contrivance it hath come to pass? Shall we give implicitly into such a Belief, without demanding some good natural Reason, or well attested History in Support of it? But what is that Reason? Where is the History, except in legendary Writings of certain English Pamphleteers, comparatively, of no Antiquity, and of still less Account, as AUTHORS?

C H A P. CLXXXVIII.

From Richard I. to Edward VI.

1. *NO* sooner was Wool in England, a plentiful and valuable Commodity, but it fell a Prey, first, to ARBITRARY POWER; next, to that MONOPOLISH SPIRIT, which began with Commerce, as a Master Science, and for a long Time, made a chief Part of Trading Policy. And although many Articles and Branches of Traffic have been emancipated, and at full Liberty; yet hath ENGLISH WOOL been almost constantly held in Bondage, more or less; and never more, than from the Restoration, downwards.

2. MERCHANTS at first, paid a Fine to the Crown for Leave to export Wool; without which Leave and Fine^t, the same was liable to be confiscated. This Fine was grown up into a Custom, of Half a Mark, the Sack; when Edward I. by his sole Power levied thereon^u forty Shillings.

^z §. 21. Note. But against such Maletent of Wools^z (for so it was called) the Commonalty remonstrating very justly and stoutly, 'twas therefore remitted; but again soon after, resumed; in which fluctuating Way, of Resumption, and Remission, it continued to be Matter of Strife between the Prince and People, from Edward I. to the 22d of Edward III.; although often in that Interval solemnly disclaimed^{*} on the Part of the Crown.

3. Besides

^{*} Here then, if we may be indulged a Conjecture touching the Original of Wool Sacks in the House of Lords, as a notable Memorial of great Consequence, we should imagine it to have been, if at all, some Time, during this Struggle; to perpetuate the Remembrance of a noble Stand made upon that Occasion, and of an allowed indefeasible Right in the Subject, not to be saddled with any Tax or Imposition, by other Authority than that of Parliament. This is not unworthy, nor altogether improbable. Another Reason^z assigned, cannot be the true one; because

^t Chap. 4.
§. 14.
^u §. 21.
^z §. 21. Note.

^z Ch. 150.
§. 5, 6.

3. Besides the *Maletent of Wools*, another Grievance obtained early against Growers; namely, a deceitful Method of weighing, called *Auncel*; from which they were not soon, nor easily delivered †; although for this End, they had Assistance from the *Crown*, which suffered thereby alike in its *Customs*, as did Subjects in their Property.

* Ch. 5. §. 26. 30. Note.
Ch. 7. §. 3. Note.
Ch. 11. §. 8. Note.

4. Further, the *Crown* had frequently, (in the Time of *Edward III.* especially) a *Pre-emption of Wools*; which could not fail of being injurious to Growers. Neither was this all——To recite every Imposition on Wool, under one Pretence or another, would be to transcribe too great a Part of *these Memoirs*, from Chap. 4. §. 13. to Chap. 15. §. 33; where, by Statute (37 Henry^b VIII.) *Merchants of the Staple*, together with the richest *English Clothiers*, appear to have obtained a considerable Monopoly of it; but not a complete one. For though by this Statute it was totally disallowed to “ buy or bargain for Wool (on Account of any Merchant-Stranger, or on Account of any other than a Merchant of the Staple, or a Maker of Cloth or Yarn) in Kent or twenty-seven Shires:” Yet the Act, extending not to the whole Kingdom; and *Merchants of the Staple* buying to sell again, as well for Exportation, as for Home Use; that making to Growers somewhat of a double Market for their Produce, ’twas no doubt an Help to them in the Price of it.

* Ch. 5. §. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.

Chap. 15. §. 33.

5. Having seen how the Material was treated in this Period: Let us turn back and trace the Manufacture, and its Exportation Trade from this Kingdom.

6. For with the Growth of Wool in England, or however, very soon after, commenced in a Degree, the Art of manufacturing it: CLOTHS being certainly there made, not only in, but long before the Year^c 1224.

* Chap. 4. §. 16. Note.

cause they had been immemorially there; and by Tradition, whether well grounded or not, as a Remembrance or Token^d of somewhat considerable, before it was so much as thought of, to prohibit absolutely the Exportation of Wool from this Realm.

* Ch. 28. §. 1. Note.
Ch. 66. §. 9

† Nay, to this very Day Growers are not wholly free from Imposition, in weighing of Wool. For though the *Auncel* is, long since, out of use; yet does a Custom obtain too generally, and contrary to what is practised in all other Commerce, for Buyers, instead of Sellers, to take upon them the Office of presiding at the Scales. And notwithstanding all Buyers are not alike assuming, nor all Sellers equally tame and passive; yet is it commonly believed, that the latter, upon the whole, are on the suffering Side that Way. And certainly a more proper Method would be, after a mutual Scrutiny of Scales and Weights, for Sellers of Wool, like Venders of other Commodities, to weigh up, which is but to deliver out their own; leaving to the Buyer all reasonable Liberty of excepting to what he should think scant Weight, without putting contrarily, a Difficulty upon Sellers, who being far less conversant in that Business, are more liable to be deceived, by all the Difference there is, between being exercised in it, for Days and Weeks successively, and only seeing it done, perhaps not oftner than once a Year.

And

And towards the Close of the 13th Century, one *Thomas Cole* * was distinguished by the Name of the rich Clothier of *Reading* in *Berkshire*.

* Ch. 5. §. 1,
2, 3.

† Ch. 5. §. 5.
Note.

‡ Chap. 5.
§. 5. Note.
§. 7. 8.

§. 23.

* §. 32.

† Chap. 6.

‡ Chap. 8.
§. 34.

§. 10. §. 3.

§. 11.
§. 13.

§. 24.

§. 28.

§. 30.

7. In the Year 1331^e, and again in 1336, King *Edward III.* gave Protection and Encouragement to several foreign Manufacturers in *England*.

About which Time it was made Felony by [†] Statute, to transport WOOL. But that was only, TILL IT SHOULD BE OTHERWISE ORDAINED. And therefore is to be construed chiefly a Device for raising Money upon the Subject.

—Accordingly, that Statute was presently dispensed with, in Consideration of [‡] Money paid to the Crown, and soon after wholly vacated by *Act* of Parliament, which gave the King a [§] Custom in Lieu of the Prohibition.

8. The Manufacture increasing, 'twas thought proper to impose a Custom also on CLOTHS and WORSTEDS EXPORTED; against which a [†] Petition was presented in the twenty first of this Reign; but rejected; giving for Reason, “ that such Profit might well be taken of CLOTHS wrought within the Realm, and CARRIED FORTH, as of the Wools of the Land; RATEABLE THE CLOTH, AS THE SACK.”

9. In the 27th of this Reign, to compensate still more for the Custom lost on WOOL, as then manufactured at Home, which aforetime was wont to be exported raw, a Subsidy ^{*} was laid on every Cloth made within the Realm to be sold. The Woolen Exports of the next Year (28th *Edward III.*) were in QUANTITY, Treble, and in VALUE, above one Third, more than the Imports of Cloth in that same Year.

10. In the 14th and 15th of *Richard II.*, the Merchants petitioned, to transport *Kerseyes* for the old Custom [‡]; which was not granted—In the 3d of *Henry V.* was a Petition that Straight Cloths, called *Dozens of Devonshire* [§] and *Cornwall* might pay Custom after the Rate of Broad Cloths: In the 10th of *Henry VI.* that two Persons of every Hundred [°] within the Realm might be commissioned to search the due Making of Woolen Cloths, and to seal the same: In the 20th were appointed by Statute, four Wardens of worsted Weavers for the City of *Norwich*; and two more for the County of *Norfolk* ^p: In the 23d, two more for that County and *Suffolk* ^q: In the 27th was a provisional *Act*, “ in Case WOOLEN CLOTHS made in ENGLAND should not be accepted in *Brabant*, *Holland*, and *Zealand* ^r.”

* *Pestlethwait's Dict.* Vol. I. p. 244.

11. *The Manufacture having, as it was thought, increased to a proper Pitch for that Purpose, the Importation of Woolen Cloths, Caps, &c. was totally prohibited in the 3d of Edward IV.:* And in the 7th of the same Reign, ^aCh. 12 §. 3. *the Wardens of worsted Weavers at Norwich: were augmented in Number, t* §. 10. *Note.* from FOUR to EIGHT: In the 8th, was prescribed by Statute, the Length, Breadth, and Weight, of both *straight*, and *broad Cloths*, made in *Norfolk*, *Suffolk*, and *Essex*: In the 1st of *Richard III.*, of ALL CLOTHS, except ^u §. 14. *those made in Winchester* ^{*} and *Salisbury*.

12. In 1493, All Commerce being suspended between the Subjects of ^aChap. 13. *England and Flanders*, the Mart of *English CLOTHS* ^u §. 12. *Note.* was transferred from ^{Chap. 14} *Antwerp* to *Calais*, till in 1496, a Treaty was concluded with the *Arch Duke* ^{§. 12. Note.} *Philip*, whereby he desisted from the *Duty* of a ^{§. 13. Note.} *Florin*, which before, he had exacted on every Piece of *English Cloth* brought into his Dominions.

13. In the Beginning of *Henry VIII.* flourished at *Newberry* in *Berkshire*, *JOHN WINCHCOMB*, commonly called *Jack of Newberry*, one of the greatest *Clotbiers* that ever was in *England*: He keeping an HUNDRED LOOMS in his House; and in the Expedition to *Flodden-Field* against the *Scots*, marched an hundred of his own Men, all armed and cloathed, at his own Expence ^{*}—During this Reign, passed sundry ^aChap. 15. *Laws relating to* *Woolen Manufacture*; some general; others particular; *viz.* for *Cornwall*, *Devonshire*, *N. Wales*, *Lancashire* and *Cheshire*, *Yarmouth*, *Lynn*, *Suffolk*, *Worcestershire*, *York*. In the 14th and 15th of it, it is particularly mentioned, that since the 7th of *Edward IV.* the making of *Worsted*s, *Says*, and *Stamins*, was greatly increased in the City of *Norwich*, and County of *Norfolk*; and that the same was busily practised both at *Yarmouth* and *Lynn*. And which is more to be remarked, *Henry* having entered into a League with *France* against the Emperor, in Consequence whereof Trade was interrupted with the *Low Countries*, and the *Merchants* would buy no more Cloth which they could not vend; the *Clotbiers*, THEREFORE, rose ^u §. 20. *in Arms*—^aChap. 12. *Which shews evidently the Dependence of England at this Time, on a foreign Trade for Cloth and other Woolen Goods; and more, with other Countries even at this Time, than with FRANCE. There were then indeed in the Kingdom THREE considerable Companies of Merchants, trading largely therein; viz. those of the* ^{§. 18, 19,} *STILL-YARD, Foreigners; the MERCHANTS OF THE STA-* ^{Chap. 12.} *PLE,* ^{§. 5. 13, 16.} *and the M M ADVENTURERS,* ^f *English.* ^{Chap. 14.} ^{§. 12, 14,} ^{Note.}

^{*} Postlethwait's Dict. Vol. I. p. 245.
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REMARK.

14. *The foregoing Particulars, discovering not only the high Antiquity of Cloth making in England, viz. in and before the Reign of Henry III., but from Edward III. a swift Progress and vast Increase both of Woolen Manufacture, and a foreign Trade for it: THEY are to be noted against Writers on this*

¹ Ch. 5. §. 1. *Subject, who too generally have either ascribed falsely to Edward III. its first*
Note. Ch. 15. Beginning, together with the Policy of prohibiting absolutely the Exportation
² Ch. 41. §. 2. *of Wool; reckoning an uninterrupted Continuance of such Prohibition from*
Chap. 114. his Time: OR otherwise have dated the Original of Woolen Manufacture and
³ Ch. 51. *its Exportation Trade, especially the latter, no higher than the 12th of Eliz.*

⁴ Ch. 119.

⁵ Ch. 5, 6.

⁶ Ch. 122. §. 1.

⁷ Ch. 123.

⁸ Ch. 133.

⁹ Ch. 2. Note.

C H A P. CLXXXIX.

From Edward VI. to the Year 1568.

¹ Ch. 16. §. 3. 1. **A** D. 1549, ² not only *Lands* were inclosed, and the Growth of *Wool* increased, but the *Woolen Trade* flourished: Nevertheless, because Rents were consequently advanced, and also for another Reason, the *Price of Wool*; THEREFORE certain Farmers and Manufacturers, instigated by suppressed Monks, took up Arms; in *Norfolk* particularly: And the seditious there, sending their Complaints to Court: The *Council* (for their Pacification) had Recourse to two *extraordinary Expedients*; namely, "that for the present, Rents should be reduced to what they had been forty Years before;" and that "Commissioners should cause *Clothiers* to take what *WOOL* they wanted, at a less Price, by one Third, than they had given the foregoing Year."

REMARK.

2. *We call these, extraordinary Expedients; because though a Debasing* of Coin was one Reason why the Price of all Things was nominally advanced at*

* Money was debased one Third, from what it had been 36 Henry VIII. (See Ch. 4. P. 5.)

this

this Time; yet that affecting equally at least, both Landlords and Tenants, as any other Persons whatsoever, 'twas excessively hard, and unjust, to go about to abridge, one, of his Rent, the other, in selling his Wool; since those were their Dependencies respectively, for paying where they owed, and for purchasing what they wanted; and 'twas doubly hard upon Land-owners, because THEY in the Upshot, must lose what Tenants suffered by not receiving the natural Value of their WOOL: While with regard to Clothiers, who advanced their Commodities in Proportion as Coin was debased, this Expedient was no Way necessary: They, for Example, at "Blackwell-Hall, set Prices on their Cloths (in "English Money) according to the Price it bore abroad, and not according "to the [nominal] Valuation thereof given and proclaimed by the ¹ Prince;" ¹Ch. 20. §. 6. for, whereas in Consequence of this Debasement, "twenty six English Shillings were but equal to thirteen, Flemish; what Cloth was worth but thirteen "such Shillings, they would not sell in Blackwell-Hall for less than twenty six, "English." And that was sufficient Reason why they ought not to have been commissioned to take WOOL for one Third less, which in selling of CLOTH was valued at one Third more, besides a Profit in draping.

3. THE WOOLEN MANUFACTURE, by this Time, in its several Branches of old Drapery, appears to have spread itself, besides London and the Suburbs, into Berkshire. Kent, Surry, Sussex, Essex, Suffolk, Norwich, Norfolk, Winchester, Sarum, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Worcester and Worcestershire, Somersetshire, Devonshire, N. and S. Wales, Lancashire, Cheshire, Westmoreland, Cumberland, Northumberland, the Bishopric of Durham, York and Yorkshire; Halifax ^m, most eminently.

^m Chap. 18.

§. 7. Note.

4. In 1552, The Corporation of German Merchants living in the Still-yard, who, the foregoing Year, had shipped out FORTY FOUR THOUSAND CLOTHS, was dissolved ⁿ, at the Instance of the M M Adventurers, their ⁿ Chap. 17. Rivals; who in this same Year sent out FORTY THOUSAND BROAD ° CLOTHS ° Ch. 17. §. 8. at one Shipping. Many Things were objected to the Merchants of the Still-yard, whose greatest Fault seems to have been, their Privilege by antient Grant or Charter, of paying only one and a Quarter on the Hundred, for their Exports, and Imports; which was judged to be in Diminution of the King's Revenue—However, they were restored for a Time by Queen Mary ^p; in whose Reign the CLOTH TRADE was grown to be so very great ^p Ch. 18. §. 3. in England, that exporting of raw Wool was ALMOST WHOLLY ^q DECAYED; ^q Ch. 26. §. 6. and the Revenue arising from Customs on that Head, reduced in a Manner

* Ch. 26. §. 3.
Note.

* Wheeler,
p. 88.
† Chap. 20.
§. 1, 2, 3.
Note.

to nothing. *Wherefore*, in 1557, 'twas thought no bad * Policy, to raise the *Custom on Cloth*, from 14d. to 6s. 8d. to be paid by *Englishmen*, and 13s. 4d. by *Strangers* transporting the same: Whence (says Mr. Wheeler) "the *Custom on Cloth* became immediately equal to the *Custom on Wool*, when most." And this is credible from *Camden's Account* of the *English Trade abroad* for WOOLEN MANUFACTURE, so early in *Queen Elizabeth's* Reign, as the Year 1564, who says (and speaks it assuredly from authentic Accounts) to *Antwerp* singly, it was not less in Value than FIVE MILLIONS OF GOLD yearly; viz. at the very lowest Reckoning, SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND POUNDS *Sterling*; when there was besides, an Exportation of WOOLENS to *Amsterdam*, *Hamburg*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, *France* probably; to *Sweden* and *Russia* certainly.

REMARK.

5. The great Abuse and epidemical Error in England about this Subject, have been those of, some representing, many believing, OUR WOOL so far a NECESSARY TO ALL THE WORLD, that CLOTH, or STUFF, cannot be made in any Quantity at least, nor tolerable Perfection, without it:—that accordingly, till a Prohibition took place, THIS NATION neither made any Advances towards a foreign Trade with Woolens, or even so much as in the Manufacture for Home Use: NOR Foreigners, but as they obtained, first, openly, and since, in a clandestine Manner, the Material, HENCE, or from IRELAND.

6. That OTHER NATIONS are supplied with WOOL of their own, and from foreign Countries, besides England and Ireland: And what MANUFACTURIES OF WOOL have been, and still do so exist among them, is to be seen (Ch. 120, 121. 151-70. 178, 179, 180, 183) where the Account given, is too brief to admit of being shortened, and therefore improper to be repeated—But for what concerns the State of OUR OWN MANUFACTURIES and EXPORTATION TRADE, in this Period, when WOOL WAS NOT PROHIBITED

* Chap. 87.
§. 16.
† Chap. 15.
§. 25. Ch. 16.
§. 8. Ch. 18.
§. 5. 9.

* But a much better was that of 11th and 12th of William III. Chap. 12. for immediately taking away those Duties—Not so, the Statutes of Henry VIII, & Edward VI., and Philip and Mary, for confining chiefly WOOLEN MANUFACTURE to Cities, Boroughs, and Towns Corporate; which monopolish Acts, though they are not still in their full Force, yet do the bad Consequences of them, to Growers of Wool especially, remain in some Measure to this Day, in a Manner too notorious, to need being more particularly specified.

TO BE EXPORTED, the foregoing History of it is to be observed, in Contradiction again, not only to innumerable English, of less Note, but those two illustrious Foreigners, Grotius and Thuanus¹; who have represented US, thus long, and somewhat later, to have been only Shepherds and Husbandmen: P. 8. OUR EXPORTS, nothing but RAW WOOL—How these two eminent Persons fell into this very gross * Mistake, we know not; but so it was that they did; and subsequent Writers² seem to have been misled by them.

¹ Ch. 172.
§. 1. Ch. 17.
P. 8.
Chap. 178.
§. 15.

C H A P. CXC.

From the Year 1568, to the End of Queen Elizabeth's Reign.

1. IN this Period was a Variety of Incidents; some, very favourable to the Manufactures; others again, disadvantageous to the Woolen Trade of England.

2. In, or soon after the Year 1568, a Number of French and Flemish Refugees were encouraged to settle and follow their Trades at Norwich, Colchester, Sandwich, Maidstone, and * Southampton. But at the same Time, through Misbehaviour of Merchants, a Stop was put to a very beneficial Trade for CLOTH, &c. in Russia; which it cost the Queen some Time and Trouble to restore.

3. Also, upon a Quarrel with Spain, the English Merchants were prohibited all Commerce (which Suspension lasted five Years) and had besides, their Effects seized, both there, and in the Low Countries.

4. Soon after, Antwerp^b was sacked; the English Merchants there, severely plundered; and withal obliged to redeem themselves at a very high Ransom—But then, to make amends, commenced, within a few Years, the English Trade to * Turkey.

5. On the other Hand, the Muscovy Trade^d had again gone into Decay; but was a second Time re-established by a succeeding * Emperor; not,

* This its true, had been very much the State of England, above two Centuries before; but that had been changing from Edward III.; and was greatly altered by the Time of Edward IV.; although Merchants of the Staple, as chief Exporters of Wool, were then the predominant Company of English Merchants—But in the Reign of Henry VII, M M Adventurers, who made the WOOLEN-MANUFACTURE TRADE the principal Object of their Application, had plainly taken the Lead.

^c §. 7.
^d Ch. 24. §. 2.
Chap. 12.
§. 16.
Chap. 14.
§. 12, 13.
as Not.

as he said, in respect to the Merchants, but to the Queen; who about the same Time gave a Patent to two Noblemen and some others, for the

^h §. 3. sole vending of English^h Cloths to Barbary.

ⁱ Ch. 26. §. 3. 6. Immediately after, followed the Spanishⁱ Invasion; by which, and a long War it occasioned, the Trade of England, in Lord Burleigh's Opinion, suffered considerably.

^{Note:}

7. To the foregoing Circumstances is to be added, that the Emperor and other Princes of Germany, espousing all along the Still-yard Merchants, whom the great Company of M M Adventurers had been reputed to have supplanted in England: THOSE POWERS were continually molesting the said M M Adventurers, in some Shape, by one Means or another.

8. Notwithstanding which, it appears, at the Close of this Reign, that the WOOLEN TRADE of England had * been, and then was, considerably, or rather, prodigiously great, beyond most succeeding Times, before the Revolution.

REMARK.

9. The 12th Year of ELIZ. (1568) is vulgarly reckoned a great Era of the ENGLISH WOOLEN TRADE; as if nothing memorable in that Way, had been done in this Kingdom before. And it hath further been commonly said and believed, and to this Day is persisted in, by Mr. Postlethwait and others, that 'twas in Consequence, 1st, of receiving those Refugees mentioned (§. 2.) 2dly, and chiefly, of PROHIBITING ABSOLUTELY AND SERIOUSLY THE EXPORTATION OF WOOL FROM ENGLAND.

^k Chap. 189. 10. Neither of which are wholly true: NOT the latter, in any Degree (there being no Traces of such a Policy during the whole Reign of this great Princess) NOR the former, as it is commonly understood; because, first, we have^k seen, the CLOTH TRADE of ENGLAND was exceedingly great, not only in the foregoing Part of this Reign, but in several preceding ones, that of Queen Mary in particular. And also, we have further Reasons for thinking that the Woolen Exports from England, as to Quantity or Value, were not increased to such a Degree, as at this Day reported.

11. For by comparing of Circumstances (in this Reign) bad and good, one would be apt to conclude, that the former did more than balance the latter; as

^l Chap. 23. §. 11. * It appears also in 1581, that whereas the antient Price of English Wool in England had been about 13s. 4d. 'twas then sold for TWENTY, and TWENTY TWO SHILLINGS per Tod.

certainly they must have done, had those Interruptions of Commerce mentioned, been in Reality what it is natural to imagine them. But as, on the one Hand, (in England) Merchants of the Still-yard, though disfranchised, as a Company, were permitted to trade, i. e. to carry out CLOTH, and bring in Wares, upon the same Foot with other Merchant Strangers, or rather a better: So on the other, (in Germany) M M Adventurers, though frequently obliged to change their Places of Residence; and besides being always vexed and harrassed, more or less, were often totally prohibited to vend either Cloth, Wools, or &c. within the extensive Limits of the Holy Empire; yet (says Mr. Wheeler) "Those Mandates not extending to all Englishmen, and ALL ENGLISH WARES GENERALLY, M M Adventurers found Means to continue their Trade and vend the Commodities of their Country, though not in that Sort that were convenient."

12. In short, several Quarrels of this Reign, so far as they respected Commerce (for other Causes of Quarrel there were) arose partly, from the Netherlanders taking Umbrage at an Act passed 5 ELIZ. which to encourage Manufacturies of them at Home, prohibited the Importation of divers of their Wares; such as Pins^m, Knives, Hats, Girdles, Ribbon, &c. but chiefly, with regard to Germany, and the Still-yard Merchants, from a Difference concerning Duties, that by ancient Treaties, were very low on both Sides; which nevertheless, each Power, for its own particular Interest, sought to raise, without being willing to submit to, what was naturally to be expected, Reprisals in the same Way. This ended (according to Mr. Wheeler) in a mutual Advancement of old, much lower Duties, to 7½ on the Hundred; which neither Side would depart from; but contented themselves with reciprocally charging the others, as sole Aggressors, and with endeavouring to be the Monopolists of Europe.

^m Chap. 19.
§. 4. Note.

Ch. 26. §. 3.
Note.

Ch. 14. §. 4.

13. With all this, Mr. Wheeler (who was Secretary to that Company, and wrote in this Reign, viz. in the Year 1601) says, "THE M M ADVENTURERS OF ENGLAND were not fewer in Number, than THREE THOUSAND FIVE • HUNDRED—THEY exported CLOTH, KERSEYS and OTHER WOOLEN GOODS to the yearly Value of ONE MILLION Sterling, BESIDES WOOL, &c — Moreover the Members of the Hanse, were at Liberty to buy and carry out of the Realm all Sorts of CLOTH, &c. paying such Duties as they ought to pay; also all Subjects of upper and lower Germany, and ALL OTHER Strangers, were permitted

Chap. 25

§. 4.

Wheeler of
Commerce,
p. 143.

to

" to do the same; and DIVERS OTHER COMPANIES OF ENGLISH MERCHANTS were priviledged to TRANSPORT CLOTH, &c. into foreign Parts"

14. *Whether or no then the English Woolen Exportation Trade, as thus represented by Mr. Wheeler, whose View in Writing led him to say the most of it, was in the main greater now, in the latter End of Queen Elizabeth's Reign, than it had been in the Beginning of it, and in that of Queen Mary, is a Problem not very easy to be solved; but if not greater, there is no Reason for concluding it to have been less—However, most certainly, it cannot be said (though put upon the Public over and over again for true History) EITHER, that the Woolen Manufacture of England FIRST commenced to any considerable Degree, in, and from, the Year 1568—OR, that the Woolen Exportation Trade THEN first began, or was any Way considerably increased—LEAST OF ALL can it be maintained that any Increase was, during this Period, IN CONSEQUENCE OF PROHIBITING ABSOLUTELY THE EXPORTATION OF WOOL; because it was never ONCE done in any Shape whatsoever.*

Chap. 26.
§. 3. Note.

Chap. 15.
§. 17. Note.

15. *For the Matter of Bays and Say making, though it hath been said, and often repeated, that these two Species of Manufacture were introduced, as wholly new, in, or after, the Year 1568, yet plainly 'twas not so—Because in 1564, the Dutchess of Parma prohibited, first, Bays from ENGLAND; Cloth and Kersey, afterwards. And we have undoubted Evidence of Say making, about the 7th of EDWARD IV.; which was A HUNDRED YEARS SOONER; and of its greatly increasing from that Time; so as to be "busily practised almost THROUGHOUT NORFOLK; particularly at NORWICH, YARMOUTH, and LYNN."*

16. *What then was the Loss to Flanders, and Gain to England (so often spoke of) by the Duke d'Alva's Persecution in 1568, with what followed thereupon? The Loss to Flanders was not that of English Wool; whereof they suffered no formal Deprivation in the least—But it was a Loss, 1st, of many useful Protestant Manufacturers and Merchants. 2dly, In its Consequences, of Trade at Antwerp; which, as the Mart and Pack House * of Europe,*

* "There were often seen to lie in the River TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SHIPS TOGETHER; and THREE or FOUR HUNDRED VESSELS have frequently come up in one Tide, also TWO HUNDRED Waggons came in every Day, laden with Passengers from the neighbouring Countries; and near a THOUSAND every Week, with Germans, French and other Foreigners; and TEN THOUSAND Country Carts were continually employed in carrying Goods to and from the City."

was

was thereby become not only exceeding rich as a City, but had very much enriched their Prince and his whole Country, with all the Countries or Provinces near unto adjoining round about it. 3. It was in general, besides the cruel Bigotry of Inquisition, the Yoke of Spanish Tyranny, Violence offered without Distinction, to the Constitution and Privileges of the several Provinces of the Low Countries, that, driving thence promiscuously, both Papists and Protestants, contributed greatly to banish Trade from this richest Part of them, so far as that was done: For notwithstanding a vast Emigration, there were still a great Number of Traders in Manufactures that remained in Brabant and Flanders. ^a.

17. Of this Dispersion many Nations shared the Advantage. The seven united Provinces, as it was very natural, gained most ^b: Of MANUFACTURES England had but a small Part comparatively: In Woolen, not properly that of CLOTH^c; but rather, if any, besides Stocking Frame knitting, what was afterwards distinguished by the Name of new Drapery—But the greatest Advantage to England, from this Revolution, and which far exceeded all others put together, was Increase of Shipping by an extended Navigation; not only into the North, but to Turkey, the East, and West Indies, &c. For Antwerp ceasing to be the Center of Commerce, that prodigious Emporie which had been there carried on, came to be divided in a great Measure between Amsterdam and London. ^a Ch. 92. ^b §. 10. Note. ^c Ch. 92. ^d §. 8. ^e §. 11. 12

18. Upon the whole, whether we regard Manufacture, or Commerce: As oppressive arbitrary Measures of the Spanish Government was what gave a most fatal Blow to them in the Low Countries: So to the Reverse ^{*} of these in England, during the wise and just Administration of Eliz. was it owing, that, with the Increase of Navigation, and all its Consequences, enriching and aggrandising this Kingdom, the Woolen Trade in particular, kept its Ground at least, if it did not advance; which perhaps it did, though certainly nothing near so much, as hath been commonly imagined.

19. We have dwelt the longer on this Period, because very much hath been said about it, by innumerable Writers on our Subject; without knowing at all what was the State of Things at that Time; on the contrary, ascribing vast Consequences to one particular Measure (A PROHIBITION ON WOOL)

^{*} For though the English Merchants in general, and M M Adventurers in particular, were in a State of War abroad; yet had they and all others, Peace at Home, with Liberty and Protection in the fullest Measure; far beyond what the Subjects of England had ever before experienced, or what any other Nation enjoyed at that Time.

which having not then existed, could not be the CAUSE of any EFFECT whatsoever.

20. Yet are we well assured that in Flanders there had been most prodigious Manufacturies of CLOTH and other WOOLEN GOODS, to the Year 1568—It remains, therefore, to enquire by what means those had been maintained in their full Vigour, thus long, notwithstanding so great a Share of the English Wool had then for many Years been wrought up within the Kingdom? And to this one short Answer is, that the Flemings having the Art, and withal, Hands for that Business, and Means of vending their Goods, they wanted not Wool of their own Growth †, and from other Countries, with which they were amply supplied for all Kinds of Work.

21. If it be asked how it came to pass that England, without the Policy, since thought so essential, of prohibiting absolutely the Material from being exported, could keep a Quantity of it at Home sufficient for that high Pitch, it had without all Dispute attained, both in making for Home Use, and exporting in Manufacture? Of this the only good Account to be given, must be a Rea-

Ch. 168.
§. 2.

† The Manufactures and Commerce of the Low Countries have been so very considerable, that it seems as if Historians had therefore taken less Notice of their Product; which is, Corn, Cattle, Wool, &c. Indeed, besides what Information we receive from natural and modern History, of Sheep and Wool, in several Parts of the World, there is no doubt but that many other Kingdoms and Countries have them in sufficient Plenty. But it being customary in those Performances, taken from Books of Travels, &c. to point out chiefly what is most remarkable any where; therefore these two Articles are often so far overlooked, as not to be particularly enumerated; only couched under the general Head of a fruitful Country, plentiful Pasturage, &c.

For Example, where Gold and Silver, Slaves, Gems, Minerals of any Kind, Ivory, fine Woods, Spices, Silk, Cotton, rich Gums, other useful Drugs and dying Goods, &c. are Objects of Commerce, some other Matters, as of less Consideration, are by Writers in this Way wholly disregarded. And this may lead us to conceive how the Wools of England and Ireland came to be with us so much a Topic of Celebration, as they have been and are, even to extravagant Dotage, viz. not on Account of their being in truth so very peculiar, as represented, in Kind or Quantity (altho' somewhat may be said for both) but because they, and manufacture from them, are the best and CHIEF Commodities, which the two Kingdoms (England especially) afford for Exportation. And the best Commodity (for Traffic) whatever it be, which any Nation affords, is not only with great Reason highly esteemed by the People of such Nation; but of that they are apt to boast and to magnify it—Thus with regard to OUR WOOL, Expressions used at first, in but a figurative Sense, have in Time been received literally; and so continued, because particular, separate, Interests found their Account in such Deception—Hence likewise, through a NATIONAL Partiality and Fondness, great Strefs has been laid upon FULLERS EARTH, as an English Production, altho' the very worst Material^h that is employed for the same Purpose: Soap, and even Chalk (it is said;) doing the Business far better.

h Ch. 173.
§. 2. Note.

i Chap. 184.
§. 27.

But notwithstanding we are free to say thus much; yet would we not be understood to disparage English Wools in like Manner as Fullers Earth—Only this we say, that in their Nature they are not singular, nor even eminent beyond those of many other Countries, to that Degree which hath been long, erroneously maintained; with public Measures taken about them accordingly; which Measures are consequently less adapted to the common Good, than if what hath been Pretence, and nothing more, was really true.

lity,

lity, no Fiction. *And in fact, WOOL WAS NOT PROHIBITED, but ALLOWED TO BE EXPORTED; paying the proper Duty. SUCH DUTY, therefore, with Freight and Factorage, made it just so much dearer * to the foreign* ^{Chap. 179.} *than Home Manufacturer, as the same amounted to; which Difference of* ^{§. 7.} *Price, we may venture to pronounce, was what gave the English at that Time; all requisite Advantages, notwithstanding that Cloths exported, paid a Subsidy to the Crown; which when first laid, was intendedly* ¹ *equal to the Duty on Wool* ^{Ch. 5. §. 23.} *exported, and in that View, raised in the Reign of Philip and Mary* ^m *from* ^{Chap. 26.} *14d. on Denizens and 21d. on Strangers, to 6s. 8d. and 13s. 4d.; and so* ^{§. 3. Note.} *continued to 11, 12 of King William.* ⁿ

If it be here objected, that this Subsidy on exported Woolens, was, ac- ^{Chap. 87.} ^{§. 16.} *cording to our own Account, a Drawback upon Home Manufacturers, equal to all the Difference mentioned in their Favour, by what Duty there was then on Wool exported — We answer; not so, because it was in those Times, and long after, the ill-judged Policy of all other Nations likewise, to load their own Manufactures in the same, or a heavier Manner: So that the Custom on Wool exported was at this Time, a clear Benefit to Home Manufacturers.*

22. *So then we see, how in Support of a Monopolish Measure, since then adopted, History hath been falsified egregiously; for that the Policy of PROHIBITING ABSOLUTELY THE EXPORTATION OF WOOL, had no Share, either in ruining at this Time, so far as that was done, the Woolen Manufactures of the Low Countries, or in raising those of England * to the Pitch*

* Neither did *Woolen Manufactures* of the Netherlands prevent, as we have seen, their Growth in England; nor had the latter any Part in ruining the former. There was *Wool enough* in the Universe, not only for the Fabrics of both, but of other Countries also. The English, acting then upon a freer Plan, than since, they have done, notwithstanding they exported some of their own Wool, did import of like Quality from ^o Poland and Germany ^p; which though in all Probability ^o ^{Ch. 36. §. 2.} *an advantageous Barter for Cloth, &c. has not been the Exchange, since their pursuing* ^{Note.} *more narrow Measures in prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of their own. The FLEMINGS,* ^p ^{Chap. 120.} *tho' great Manufacturers of Wool, yet considering themselves as Merchants of the World (for* ^{§. 6.} *which their Situation was most proper) admitted Woolen Goods, on certain Terms, from all Countries, with whom they were in Amity; and in 1511, had as much of them from* ¹ *FRANCE,* ¹ ^{Chap. 39.} *as from England and Scotland put together. Yet do several tell us, that the English Woolen* ^{§. 13. Note.} *Trade arose merely from the Ruins of that Manufacture in Flanders, and that in France 'twas first erected by Mr. Colbert, in virtue of the owling Trade from England, many Years later; not considering, that even in 1568, certain French Refugees introduced in England Fabrics of THIN WOOLEN STUFFS, the Fashion of their Country; and not only before, but after, the* ^{French} ^{Chap. 191.} *Policy of prohibiting in Effect foreign Drapery, ENGLAND ALONE was reckoned to import* ^{§. 41, 42.} *from FRANCE, Serges, to the yearly Value of ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND* ^{Chap. 44.} *POUNDS. More than that, before the Dutch and English made themselves Masters of the Le-* ^{§. 8.} *vant*

Pitch they now were at, and which we make no Difficulty of thinking was the highest which they did attain in ENGLAND, before the REVOLUTIN. At least, there is no Evidence to the contrary: Nor will it appear improbable upon a Comparison of this and the two foregoing Reigns with the four succeeding ones.

- vant Trade for CLOTHS and STUFFS, those Countries had been supplied therewith by the Venetians and FRENCH. †
- † Chap. 94. §. 29. But if, considering what large Supplies of Wool from England, had heretofore confessedly been sent into the Low Countries, and from a Persuasion (according to the Bulk of Writers upon this Subject) that THEY had once the whole Trade of Europe in consequence of such Supply, there still remains a Difficulty, in conceiving how the Flemings could either be furnished with Wool, or find a Vent for their Goods, after the English had become so great Makers, both for Home use, and for Exportation: It is to be remembered that there never was a Time, when, either the Netherlanders did ingross the whole Woollen Trade of Europe, or ALL THE WOOLS of England, thence transported; for that certain of them were wont to be sold both into Normandy^u, and also to Genoa, Venice, Tuscany, Lombardy, Florence, and Catalonia^x a Province of SPAIN; in WHICH KINGDOM (moreover, that always did produce the very best Cloth Wools, besides an immense Quantity of others, called common or y ordinary,) was anciently, almost, if not altogether, the sole Manufacture of what were THEN called fine Cloths. And, as these Manufacturies in Spain did decline, though we can't assign the exact Time when first they began to fail, probably, from the Discovery of the West Indies (by which, Trade was very much increased, and the Consumption of Cloth far greater than formerly^a) so those Circumstances together made an Opening to other manufacturing Countries, both for being furnished with the Material in greater Quantities, and procuring a larger Vent for the Manufacture.
- Ch. 10. §. 5. And the Netherlanders being an industrious People, already expert, both Makers, and Merchants; THEY, as Provinces to Spain, would naturally be the first to take what Advantage was to be had in this Way from that Kingdom; just as, for the like Reason afterwards, did the seven united Provinces, (HOLLAND particularly) avail themselves greatly, by affording an Asylum to those who, hating the Rigour and Severity of the Spanish Government, retired^b thither chiefly from the other Provinces.
- Ch. 191. §. 38, 39, 42, &c. For, it will be observed, † France, and England, did not begin to acquire the making of fine Cloths from Spanish Wool, till about an hundred Years later than this Time, of which we are speaking; although it hath been the Manner of us English, all along from King James I. to represent that particular Acquisition, first by the Dutch^d, and the French afterwards, as an Intrenchment upon OURSELVES; when in truth it was Spain chiefly that lost Ground; and we had no little Share of Advantage by it; in Bays, Crape, Perrels, Kersies^e and other Manufactures, of OUR OWN, though not much, if any Thing, in the Article of fine Cloths, from Spanish Wool, till about the same Time that the FRENCH ALSO fell into that particular Manufacture; and which was about the Middle, or rather towards the latter End of the seventeenth Century.
- † Chap. 177. §. 10. Till then, from the Union of the seven Provinces, Holland, Hamburgh and Places f adjacent, Venice and some States of Italy, had principally the making of those Cloths, so far as lost to Spain. For, that 'twas not absolutely lost there, is to be concluded, not only from the Patent of Sieur Vanrobais, for making Cloths at Albeville, AFTER THE FASHION OF SPAIN^g; but still more from several Arrets of France^h; which about the same Time, taxed SPANISH CLOTHS imported to that Kingdom, equally with Dutch and English—Nay, when, some Years i after, Duties from Holland in France, were lowered to 55 Livres, a Cloth of 25 French Yards, instead of 80, those FROM SPAIN of 30 French Yards, continued to be taxed at 100 Livres.
- Ch. 178. §. 18. i §. 19.

C H A P. CXCI.

From the first Year of King James the first † to the Accession of William and Mary.

1. **T**HE Reign of King *James*, like many preceding ones, began with a Subsidy to him for Life, of Tonnage and Poundage, *Wools exported*^k, &c. Chap. 27. §. 1.

2. A Peace soon followed with *Spain*; and a Treaty of Commerce^l, sufficiently advantageous; except that a Charter exclusive for that Trade, and to *Italy*, was granted by the King to certain Merchants^m; which theⁿ Parliament disapproving, 'twas revoked, *as tending to abate the Price of Wool, &c.* §. 2. §. 3.

3. There was also a Treaty of Commerce between *England* and *France*ⁿ. §. 4.
Inclosures were multiplied^o. Nor did it appear, for the first eight Years^p of this Reign^q, but that Trade was upon the whole, in a prosperous State. §. 5. §. 7. Note.
Exports from *Christmas* 1612, to *Christmas* 1613, were £ 2487435 7s. 10d.
And the Nation received a Balance of — £ 346283 17s. 10d.

Which, though the best Account we shall find in this Period, cannot be thought to have exceeded, either that of *Camden*^r in 1564: or of *Wheeler*^r in 1601. Ch. 20. §. 1. Ch. 25. §. 5.

† N. B. The *Woolen Manufacture* in *England* being much older than the *Art of printing* there; and that *Art* having been long practised, before it came into common Use on all Subjects: Therefore *Memoirs of Wool* have been thus far collected necessarily, much more from *Statute Books* and other authentic Records, than from occasional Tracts; which making the greater Part of what follows, they are more difficult to be brought within the Plan of this *Breviate*; as being a Complication of History and Argument—The *History* (beginning generally from *Edward III.* or ending with *Queen Elizabeth*) FALSE,—the *Argument* (already abridged) mostly, *such Conclusions*, as are natural to *Premises NOT TRUE*; and both, repeated many Times over, by one Writer after another; like a large Gang of Pack-Horses treading the same deep Steps in one long dirty Road.

To avoid then as much as may be a nauseous Tautology, we shall forbear all further Confutation of *such History*; that being needless, after what hath here gone before; and treating in a like Manner the *Arguments* found common to many, shall give more distinctly those that are proper to several, together with the *Acts* in their Order of Time, that thereupon ensued, and the Occurrences or Fruits they produced; adopting always for History, in going along, what hath the Sanction of Evidence; and accounting to be such, Facts so represented, that there is Reason to believe our Authors could neither be deceived themselves, nor think of imposing upon the Public.

^r Ch. 28.

4. And indeed by a Tract^r published soon after this, it seems as if, through Fraud in Makers, and Neglect of Officers appointed to be a Check upon them (who regarding Fees only, made a *fine Cure* of their Duty) the Woollen Manufacture of *England* was in some Disgrace abroad, and the Trade consequently impaired.

^s Chap. 29.

^t Chap. 30.

§. 5.

5. However, in 1614, the *East India*^s Company, though then but newly established, appears to have carried out, mostly *broad Cloths dyed and dressed*, to the Value of £ 14,000. And the *Turkey*^r Company, which was of a longer Standing, by above twenty Years, exported much more considerably in the same Way; also the *Eastland Merchants*, and some others.

^u Chap. 26.

§. 27.

6. But the *M M Adventurers* were still far the greatest Traders in *Woolens* *. And in regard a Statute had passed (27^u Henry VIII.) prohibiting the Exportation of *white Cloths undressed*, above the Value of £ 4; which was found in Time to be no Benefit, but a Prejudice: Therefore, instead of that Statute being repealed, Queen *Elizabeth* granted to the *M M Adventurers* a Patent (with a *non obstante* x to it) for the *sole* exporting of them. By which the *Vent of Cloth* was said to be much increased, to the public Benefit, and their particular Emolument.

^x Chap. 30.

§. 5, Note.

^y Chap. 30.

§. 5, 6.

^z Chap. 31.

§. 2. Note.

7. Alderman Cockayne, with some other rich Citizens of *London*, making a specious Handle of this, by reckoning up what an additional public Advantage it *might* have been, if the same Number of *Cloths*, so exported *white and rough*, by *M M Adventurers*, had been first *dyed and dressed*; and withal plying properly the *Treasurer* and other great Officers of State, Things were so far brought to bear, that the *King* accepting an Invitation to dine with Cockayne, knighted^z him; and seizing into his Hands the *M M Adventurers* Patent (which was too much of a Monopoly) granted to the said Alderman and others (what was much more so) a Patent for the *sole dying and dressing of ALL Cloths*.

8. In Consequence of this, the *Dutch*, who, as more expert *Dyers* and *Dressers*, had been used principally to receive *ENGLISH CLOTHS white and rough*, prohibited absolutely the Importation from *England* of any dyed and dressed Cloths. Thus a Stop was put for a Time, both to the Trade and Manufacture; although a principal Argument urged for *this Policy*, had been, that “ the *Dutch* could not dispense with the Want of *English*

^a Chap. 25.

§. 4.

* The Limits of their Charter exclusive were to all the Towns and Ports lying between the Rivers of *Somme*^a in *France*, and the *Scawe* in the *German Sea*.

“ *Cloth*,

"Cloth, in whatever Shape it should please the Nation to let them have it." Moreover "that Materials for Woolen Manufactures were such as other Nations neither *bad*, nor *could want*, but MUST be furnished from *England*." But the former was *now* by woful Experience found to be *false*; and the latter, by an *English Cloth Merchant*, at the same Time, ^b publicly ^b Ch 34. §. 1. exploded for a foolish Conceit, equally void of Truth.

9. As this Procedure occasioned much Clamor: So in the Result, *Alderman Cockayne's* Patent was revoked, and that of the *M M Adventurers* restored in 1617. But the Mischief did not end so. The *States General*, and *Princes of Germany*, resenting this Attempt, not only banished ALL CLOTH OF ENGLAND dyed in the Cloth (which Proscription the former would never revoke) but proceeded further against other Species of *English Woolens*: In *Holland* particularly, to a great Imposition, viz. upon a *Pack Cloth*, nine *Guilders*, a *long Cloth*, eighteen, upon a *fine Cloth* ^c Chap. 32. twenty four *Guilders*; which was eighteen, thirty-six, and forty eight Shil- ^d §. 14. Note. lings, *English Money*.

10. The Stagnation of Trade, by means of *Cockayne's* Patent; those Impositions in *Holland*—The fraudulent Practices of *Manufacturers at Home*, with some oppressive arbitrary Proceedings of *M M Adventurers* in their corporate Capacity, furnish out the Complaints and Disputes of the remaining Part of this Reign; when confessedly *Trade* was upon the Wane; and *Wool* fallen, since that memorable Project of the *Alderman and his Associates*, from THIRTY-THREE to under TWENTY SHILLINGS a Tod.

Exports from *Christmas* 1621 ^a to *Christmas* 1622, were £ 2320436 12s. 10d. ^a Chap. 34. And the Nation under a *Contrabalance* of ——— £ 298878 7s. 2d. ^b §. 9.

11. And because exporting of *Wool* was made to bear a Part of the Blame: Therefore, in this Year, (*July* 20, 1622) the King issued a Proclamation, forbidding, *Wool*, *Fullers Earth*, &c. to be exported; but under such Circumstances, that there is Reason to believe 'twas done for a very different Purpose, than to prevent it.

12. Also the *M M Adventurers* having with too much Reason made themselves obnoxious: In the 22d of this Reign, after solemn Debates, ^c Chap. 33. §. 11. Note. ^d Ch. 36. §. 3. Note. passed two Resolutions ^e of the *Commons*, in Diminution of their Power; ^f Ch. 34. §. 7. Note. and by which, *Trade in Woolens* was somewhat more laid open; yet without attacking their Patent for exporting *white and undressed Cloths*. But as a Monopoly in one single Article, considerable as it was, did not content them:

them: So the Ground they lost by those *two Votes* abovementioned, they thought it worth while, and found means accordingly, to purchase ^g again, ten Years after, from King *Charles I.*

^g Chap. 36.
§. 5. *Note.*

KING
CHARLES.
1625.

^h Chap. 93.
§. 2.

ⁱ Chap. 35.
§. 2.

^k §. 3.

^l Chap. 36.
§. 1.

^m §. 2. *Note.*

ⁿ §. 3. *Note.*

^o §. 4. *Note.*

^p §. 7. *Note.*

^q Chap. 36.

§. 5. 7.

A.D. 1640.

^r Chap. 37.

§. 1.

^t §. 2.

^u §. 3, 4.

Note.

13. IN THE FIRST FIFTEEN YEARS OF WHOSE REIGN, or rather, after Peace in 1629 and 1630 with the *French* and *Spaniards*; and because War had broke out afresh between those latter and the *Dutch* (who during a Truce of twelve ^h Years had hugely swelled their Commerce) there is Reason to believe the Trade of *England* flourished in a good Degree—All Things having thereto conspired ⁱ; except that *Archbishop Laud* imposing too rigorously his Injunctions of Conformity on the Descendants of foreign Protestants who had took Refuge in the Kingdom, since *Edward VI.*, many Families ^k (Thousands) were frighted out of *Norfolk* and *Suffolk* into *New England*; and several (Manufacturers) went to *Holland*; by which, the Manufactures of those two Counties, and Trade for them to *Hamburg*, from the Port of *Ipswich*, was considerably lessened.

14. During a long, sad, *Interim* ^l of *Parliaments*, PROCLAMATIONS being made to serve the Purposes, not only of Government, but of *Supplies* too, they were in course calculated for *Monopolies*. The *Eastland Company*, by ^m ONE ^m, ingrossed the bringing in of—*POLONIA WOOLS*, a Trade that hath long since ceased, in Consequence of *English Wool* being artificially ⁿ rendered so much cheaper—ANOTHER ⁿ, in Words, prohibited *Wools*, &c. to be exported; but in fact, was designed to raise Money for doing the ^o same by *Licences*—A THIRD ^o, to restrain the Exportation of *Wools*, &c. ^p i. e. *without Licence*—AGAIN, ^p to vacate all former *Licences*, and put the Exporters under a Necessity of purchasing *new ones*.

15. In short, the King having not so much as *Tonnage* and *Poundage*, nor any *Aid of Parliament*, he thought himself justifiable, according to his own high Notions of the *regal Authority* in having Recourse to these and the like extraordinary Methods of raising Money for his Occasions: Of which the *MM Adventurers* taking Advantage, purchased again, as before observed, that exclusive Right of Trade in WOOLEN CLOTHS to GERMANY and the LOW COUNTRIES ^q, which the *Commons*, ten Years before, had taken from them.

16. At length ^r, the King being drove by great Necessity, to the calling of a *Parliament*, and to a Redress of Grievances ^r, in which *Monopolies* bore their Share ^r, 'twas thought fit to grant him, as had been given to his Father, the Subsidy of *Tonnage*, *Poundage*, ^s *WOOLS*, &c. so that

Wool

Wool now stood upon the same free Footing, as in the Time of Queen Elizabeth, without any other Restraint from Exportation, than that of a Duty. And in the Month of August, this Year, Sir John Brownlowe of Belton in Lincolnshire, sold three Years Wool, of that Place, and Rippingale, in the same County, at 24s. per Tod, to a Baysmaker of Colchester.

17. ENGLAND had at this Time the Spanish Trade, exclusive of the Dutch; also a good Vent for CLOTHS in Muscovy and Turkey; yet was the Decay of Trade much a general Topic of Complaint. Particular Grievances insisted on, were the King's Customs, Impositions at foreign Markets, *Woolen Manufacturies* ABROAD, and ill-making AT HOME; for which, odd as the Remedy may seem, 'twas at once proposed, for a salutary Measure, to KEEP THE WOOL MORE AT HOME, AND TO LESSEN THE EXPORTATION OF CLOTH.

18. The long Parliament passed an Ordinance for a Subsidy to their own Use, of Tonnage, Poundage, Wools exported, &c. the same that was given to King James, in the first of his Reign. Two Years after, in Consideration of a large Loan from the *MM Adventurers*, they confirmed to them all their exclusive Privileges.

19. IN 1647, Wool being at a higher Price than common, 'twas by an Ordinance prohibited to be exported, under Pain of Confiscation. Pretence was, that Manufacturers had not a sufficient Supply of that Material for their Use—But though a great Rot in the following Year, made the Quantity still less: Yet within a few Months after, the French King having prohibited all Trade with England, the Parliament in return, passed an Act (among other Things) "That no WOOL of the Growth of FRANCE should be imported to any Part of the Nation;" while upon a Question being put, whether the Linen of that Kingdom should likewise be prohibited, it was resolved in the Negative, "in regard of the general necessary Use thereof"—So that though Linen was wanted, there was plainly no real Scarcity of WOOL—Consequently the Reason alledged for prohibiting its Exportation was not literally true. And, therefore, although the Legislature of that Time, had laid an Embargo on Wool, yet after the Examples of King James, and King Charles, was it suffered to pass abroad by LICENCES.

20. At the Death of King Charles, this is said to have been the State of ENGLAND, viz. That during the civil Wars, they had not been able to supply the Sound with WOOLENS so fully as aforetime; by which Means,

• Chap. 39. the ° *Dutch* came to be let into a Part of that Trade; and the *Poles* and
§. 4. *Silesians*, making a Virtue of Necessity, set up *Woolen Manufacturies* for
p §. 5. their own Use, with THEIR OWN WOOL.

q Chap. 39. 21. The *Dutch* having made a firm Peace with *Spain* in 1648, upon
§. 8. the Foot of *free States*, THEY had a full Trade thither, WITH *fine Cloths*
especially, *their own Manufacture*: and FOR the *Material* of them, *SPANISH*

r Chap. 177. WOOL: Wherefore certain *ENGLISH* seeing this with their usual all' grasping
§. 1, 2. Eye, conceived a Scheme to disconcert them, by ingrossing THOSE WOOLS into
s Chap. 39. THEIR OWN HANDS—A chimerical Project! but which succeeding, would
§. 10. Note. have had more Sense in it than some other monopolish Imaginations, although
the *English* did not yet understand how to use THOSE WOOLS in the best Man-
ner. (See §. 24. 38, 39.)

t 1651. 22. About the same Time, it was represented, that by Reason of the
u Chap. 39. high Duties on *Flemish Linens*, all *English Cloths*, and other *Woolen Goods*,
§. 9. Note. were lately prohibited there*. Soon after, the Government received Ad-
vice of a prodigious *Woolen Manufactory* at *Frawstad*, and *Lissa* in the up-
x Chap. 40. per Parts of *Poland*, towards the Borders of *Silesia*: Of TWO HUNDRED
P. 8. AND TWENTY THOUSAND CLOTHS there made YEARLY, besides the same
and other *Woolen Goods* at, and in the Neighbourhood of *Dantzick*: of
great Supplies of *Wool* which *Holland* received from those Countries con-
stantly and continually: Of the *Duke of Brandenburg* having bespoke
ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND ELLS of *SILESIA CLOTH* at *Koningsburgh*, for
his Troops, heretofore supplied with *ENGLISH CLOTH*, now disesteemed,
because not well looked to; the Spinning and Making being both accounted
very bad: It was also signified from the *Hague*, by the *English Minister*
y Chap. 42. there, to the *President of the Council at London*, that Quantities of *English*
Wool were imported to *Holland*.

23. And indeed, as the greater Part of the *Manufacturers and Merchants*, who
to avoid the *Duke D'Alva's Persecution*, and the Yoke of *Spain*, left *Brabant*

* With a View, it was apprehended, of subjecting the same again to a Duty, under the Name
of *Lycent*; which had been formerly taken there, but after some Time remitted. And indeed
PROHIBITIONS formerly, for the most part, every where, signified nothing more than a Duty or
Composition for importing or exporting by Licence from the Government, what on other Terms,
with the View of raising Money, was forbidden under higher Penalties of Confiscation, Fine, Im-
prisonment, one or all of them. In which Light are to be considered the several *English* Pro-
hibitions hitherto, on WOOL. 1. By Statute, *Edward III.* 2. By Proclamation of *King James.*
3. Of *King Charles.* 4. By Ordinance of Parliament, so called, 1647.

and

and Flanders, *had*, as it was very natural for them to do, took up their *Residency* with the seven Provinces (united to preserve their Liberties) and chiefly in the Province of Holland: So 'tis no Wonder that the Dutch, who had immemorially been conversant in the Business, and in the Beginning of the FOURTEENTH Century, *had*, like England, received into their Protection, Workmen Ghent, Bruges, &c. were now, by this last Reinforcement, very soon in a Capacity of carrying on a vigorous Trade in Woolen Manufacture—THEY having then the same Means of doing it, which the OTHERS had before.—
As to the MANUFACTURIES mentioned, of Poland, and Silesia, so far as then new; even those were an Effect from the same Cause—THEY had WOOL ENOUGH AND TO SPARE; and by entertaining some of the fugitive Artificers, *had* probably (the former certainly) * but enlarged what they had before; while the English, through a real or affected Ignorance, treated every foreign Woolen Manufactory they heard of by any Means, as an absolute Novelty, and Robbery upon themselves, a Violence offered to THEM by THEIR OWN WEAPONS, ENGLISH WOOL, and FULLERS EARTH; spreading most industriously a Conceit, that without the latter, and a Mixture at least of the former, there could not be a Piece of Cloth made IN THE WHOLE WORLD—Thus

24. An English Writer, under the Title of THE GOLDEN FLEECE, b 1656. held it for a Truth, that England had been in the sole Possession of the CLOTHING TRADE, for above THREE HUNDRED YEARS; and because the English had not then arrived to the making of the FINEST CLOTHS of SPANISH WOOL intirely, only what were called Half, and Quarter, Spanish, i. e. with a proportionable Mixture of that Wool; by which it could not be concealed in England, that Wools of Spain were of some Use and Value; therefore a Notion was advanced by him, that “THESE, neither alone, nor mixed with any other than English, could be wrought into CLOTH;” grafting the same upon a foolish Tradition that “the SPANIARDS had originally their Breed of Sheep from ENGLAND”—All this, to make Way for what took place upon the Restoration, viz.

25. AN ACT OF PARLIAMENT PROHIBITING ABSOLUTELY THE EXPORTATION OF WOOL, &c. The first Law of the Kind, that was seriously

* Before the English Trade to Muscovy was established under Philip and Mary, the Russians were furnished with Cloth from the Countries of Poland; where Wool appears to have been a Commodity, long before 'twas known in Britain.

intended to prevent it—that could not be dispensed with formally by Licences from the executive Power; and was only to be superseded by the same Authority that gave it Being! It will soon be seen what were the first Fruits of THIS POLICY—Only, since Things are best illustrated by Comparison, it may be observed, as no Accounts of English Exports, and Imports, have occurred, from the first of KING CHARLES to the RESTORATION OF KING CHARLES II. So we can only form a Judgment in this Period, from the following Circumstances that have appeared; viz.

¹ Chap. 37.

§ 4. Note.

^m Chap. 39.

§. 10. Note.

26. No Complaint of WOOL having been remarkably cheap, but the contrary; especially from 1647 to 1660. Since 1640, to this Time, the lowest Price mentioned, was TWENTY-FOUR SHILLINGS ¹ per Tod. And in 1651 the medium Price of ordinary clothing Wool was 12 d. ^m a Pound. And notwithstanding great Unhappiness of the Times, in other Regards, for twenty Years preceding the RESTORATION: Yet in 1653 'twas said, "The Trade of the Kingdom had arrived at the highest Pitch it ever knew, as appeared by the great Sums then offered for the Customs: The Riches of the Nation shewed itself in the high Value that Land and all its native Commodities bore."—But behold, after the Restoration, almost an immediate Change, a very different Scene, as to these Particulars!

ⁿ Chap. 40.

§. 22. Note.

27. IN 1662, certain Traders called *Interlopers*, charged the *M M Adventurers*, then best known by the Name of *The Hamburgh Company*, (whose Charter had been lately renewed) with a great Decrease of Trade, from the Time of such Renewal, in Consequence of THEIR * *monopolish Power*. THEY, acknowledging the former (a Decay of Trade) denied only the latter.

^o Chap. 43.

§. 5, 6.

^p Chap. 43.

§. 7. P. 8.

28. Exports from 1662 ^p to 1663, were no more than £ 2022812 4s od. The Contrabalance — — — — — £ 1993207 19s. 8d. Therefore followed an ACT, by which, it was made Felony to export Wool. This Penalty, though it remained to the Reign of King William, was not once executed.

29. FRENCH FASHIONS prevailed much; and the Commodities of that Kingdom found a prodigious Vent; insomuch that in 1663, 'twas computed, England paid to France a Balance of £ 1600,000 os. od.

* And by means of their Agents; for their Charter not only gave them an exclusive Right, but allowed them to have Officers of their own in the Custom-houses, to see that they were not prejudiced in that Right, by those, who were privileged to send the like Woolens to other Parts.

The

The *English Produce*, as well as *Manufacture*, being consequently a Drug: An *Act* passed, intituled, *for the Encouragement of Trade*. By way of Restraint, to limit the bringing in of Cattle from Scotland and Ireland, to a certain Season of the Year. Chap. 44. §. 10. Note.

30. IN 1664, The Price of Wool was greatly fallen; yet to palliate this, 'twas publickly maintained by a Merchant of London, to be a NATIONAL BENEFIT*; for that THE WOOLEN TRADE had thereby increased, twice as much: But as he did not offer any Vouchers for such his Assertion, so 'tis to be presumed he could not; indeed, the Reverse is much more likely, from the following Circumstances of the next Year. Chap. 45. §. 1, 2.

31. IN 1665, Thomas Tilham of Warwickshire, with upwards of TWO THOUSAND MEN, went and set up a WOOLEN MANUFACTURE in the Palatinate; and one Skep of Hertfordshire, with MANY OTHERS, followed and joined them. Chap. 46. §. 4.

32. With the Price of Wool and all other native Produce, Rents of England being greatly fallen, an *Act* passed, prohibiting absolutely at all Times, the Importation of Cattle from Ireland: Also an *Act* for burying in Woolen. (See §. 61. Note.) Chap. 46. §. 5. Note.

33. Sir William Godolphin, who had negotiated a Treaty of Commerce with Spain, had been also instructed to treat for a Pre-emption and Monopoly of the Spanish Cloth Wools; which he did not obtain; neither, ten Years after; when he thought the Conjuncture somewhat more favourable. Chap. 49. §. 1.

In 1668-9, The whole Exports of England were £ 2663274 19s. 0d. The Contrabalance was £ 2132664 18s. 0d. Chap. 177. §. 2, 12, 13. Chap. 49. §. 2. Note.

34. THUS was Trade at an extreme low Ebb; according to Sir Josiah Child*, many Branches quite lost; very little left, except to Turkey, Italy, Spain and Portugal, and the English Plantations. FRANCE had laid an Imposition of fifty or sixty per Cent. on English Drapery; the Swedes and Danes taxed it almost to a Prohibition. To Turkey, Italy, Spain, Portugal, the Dutch had a considerable Part of what was once, (as he supposed) the English Trade for FINE CLOTH; but not so much in the coarse; because Chap. 47. §. 2. §. 7.

* Inasmuch as it was a Means (he said) to prevent OTHER NATIONS from making their own Clothing; who wanted neither ART nor MATERIALS for the Performance; but which they used or neglected, just as the Price of English Wool rose or fell in England—An Argument this, which needs no other Comment, than that it differs greatly from some that have gone before; and from many that will follow after; although in one Respect, 'tis very much like the far greatest Part of them, in that it requires a Belief of what no Man using his Reason, can think credible.

(said

- (said he) "the Wool of which *they* are made, is OUR OWN; and consequently cheaper to us ^b than THE DUTCH can steal it from us."—Yet adding, that "IT went over THEN so plentifully, both from ENGLAND, and IRELAND ^c, as to be within a small Matter equally cheap in HOLLAND, as in England."
- ^b Chap. 47. §. 3.
- ^c Chap. 48. §. 1.

REMARK.

35. Besides taking notice here, that the Act of Prohibition, far from having produced any national Good, had not so much as prevented the exporting of Wool, we desire to observe further, and argue a little upon what this great Man hath said; because though henceforward we have a Group of Writers upon OUR Subject; yet few, if any, of equal Consideration. Middling coarse Cloths in ENGLAND, were made (he says) of common English Wool; the fine, we should imagine from him, were not. But in truth they were at this Time made, either of those fine Wools which England produces in a very small Quantity, or of them, mixed with the much finer of Spain. In the former, middling coarse Cloths, the English were very able to cope with the Dutch; but not altogether so in the latter. Why in the former? Because WOOL was cheaper to them than to the Dutch—Yet he adds "it went over then so plentifully to HOLLAND, as to be within a small Matter, equally cheap, THERE, as in ENGLAND." But why did it go over then so plentifully, under the Risks of Felony; since (whatsoever might be Sir Josiah's Opinion at that Time) there was certainly no Want of WOOL, especially for middling coarse Cloths, in many other, indeed most Parts of Europe, besides Asia and Africa; and for which former, Amsterdam then was, and still continues to be a principal Mart? The Runnage, therefore, to HOLLAND of English Wool, for middling coarse Cloths, could be only on Account of the higher Price there given for them; which yet was not higher than what other Wools of like Quality bore in the same Place ^d. This we may be assured of. The first Question is, how much higher were those Wools in Holland, than in England? That Sir Josiah did not say; only it was a Difference which the Dutch could afford; and so long as they could, the Temptation of it, to CLANDESTINE DEALERS, was such, that by the Nature of ^e Trade, which is ever in close Pursuit of Profit, THEY would not fail of conveying it to them. But secondly, why was it that the Dutch could afford that Difference which made the Temptation? Because, in
- ^d Chap. 180. §. 6.
- ^e Chap. 48. §. 3.
- Sir

Sir Josiah's Opinion, Interest of Money being too high^e, it wanted to be^t §. 6.
 lowered: STRANGERS received and privileged with a FULL TOLERATION
 or LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE. All which have been long since done in a
 good Measure; and yet the Difference^e remaining much as it was, bath all along^e Chap. 193.
 produced nearly the same Effects. The Dutch and others have been^h continually^h §. 85.
 stealing Wool from England, to use Sir Josiah's Expression; which we think^h Chap. 182.
 an improper one; it being plainly the English, who for Profit steal it abroad;
 and Foreigners are only Receivers of such stolen Wools, at their own Mar-
 ket Price for other Wools of like Quality or Goodness—So that Sir Jo-
 siah mistook the true Cause of the Smugglers Profit, their Inducement; which
 was precisely this. An absolute Prohibition on Wool from ENGLAND, being
 in effect a MONOPOLY, had brought it so far below the Market Price of
 EUROPE for Wools of the same Kind, as to afford a Temptation to the il-
 licit Practice of Runnage—Yet the Dutch being furnished with all they
 used (besides what they thus got from England) for middling coarse Cloths, at
 just so much a dearer Rate, than the English Manufacturers were, by what
 the Smugglers Charge and Profit did amount to; and English Manufac-
 turers having that whole Difference in their Favour, were able to preserve
 their Share of Trade in those Kinds of CLOTH particularly, that were made
 in Holland, either of English, or with other Wools of like Quality.

36. We ask then all Persons of Consideration, whether a Duty on English
 Wool, if exported, might not have made the same Difference at least, which
 the Prohibition then did? We ask all Persons who will reflect on what was the
 State of Things in Queen Elizabeth's Reignⁱ, whether a Duty had not thenⁱ Chap. 190.
 that Effect at least? And whether such a Policy is not capable of operating^{§. 21.}
 alike at ALL TIMES.

37. For here, let it be considered; WHAT some had given out before this;
 and innumerable Writers since, have built upon, as the Ground and Founda-
 tion of an absolute Prohibition; THAT Sir Josiah did not make any Part of
 his Argument for the Expediency of such a Measure. He did not speak, or
 give the least Hint, of any peculiar Qualities in English Wool, for working
 up^k with foreign; though writing professedly upon the Subject; which he had^k Chap. 33.
 long studied; and although he was himself a great Advocate for the Prohibition. §. 4.
 Undoubtedly he was not ignorant of this being alledged,—he was likely, as any
 other Person in the Kingdom, to have informed himself well in that Particular;
 and had he known, or even thought it, would not have spared an Argument of
 such

such Consideration. But having not mentioned any Thing like it, 'twas plainly no Part of his Belief—Most probably, knowing the contrary, he would not sully his Writing with such an absurd, abominable Untruth; as many others since him, have done.

38. LASTLY, *why did THE DUTCH take so great a Share above THE ENGLISH, as Sir Josiah hath intimated, in the Trade for fine Cloths, beyond what was done in the coarse and middling Sort, which fine Cloths, being made in both Nations, all or Part, * of FOREIGN WOOLS (Spanish) those were purchased for both, it must be presumed, at the same Price, or nearly so?—We answer, though high Interest, &c. were uppermost in Sir Josiah's Thoughts, yet was there another Cause to be assigned, of far greater Efficacy; namely, THE DUTCH were hitherto vastly more expert in that Branch of Business, and indeed in the dying and dressing of Cloths in general, than was yet known in England. Of this some Symptoms have appeared in several foregoing*

¹ Chap. 30. Chapters ¹ of these Memoirs. And it is to be seen fully and expressly in the next §. 4. 5. following Section.

Ch. 31. §. 2.

^m Chap. 49.

§. 2.

39. A. D. 1668, One Brewer ^m (whose Parents were said to be English) with about fifty Walloons, who WROUGHT AND DYED FINE WOOLEN CLOTHS, came into England. And the King, after the Example of two of his wisest and most renowned Predecessors, entertained them; by whom the English were instructed to MAKE AND DYE FINE WOOLEN CLOTHS, CHEAPER BY FORTY per Cent. than they COULD DO BEFORE; not only to the Benefit of the English at Home, but in foreign Vent abroad; WHICH BEFORE, THE DUTCH † HAD. ⁿ

ⁿ Chap. 42.

30. From

^o Chap. 39.

§. 10. Note.

^p Chap. 41.

§ 4.

* Though the Dutch at this Time, made some Cloths with only a Mixture of Spanish Wool, as the English did; yet a great Share of THEIR fine Cloths were intirely ^o Spanish; which seems not to have been a Manufacture in ENGLAND hitherto; at least we may believe it was not, ten Years before; because then insisted upon in print ^p, that "SPANISH WOOL ALONE WOULD NOT BE WROUGHT INTO CLOTH"—But probably between that Time and this, there had been some Attempts towards it, in Emulation to the Dutch, but wherein the English came short of them, by a Difference of 40 per Cent. (See §. 39. Note.)

^q Chap. 92.

§. 9. 10, 11,

12.

† Here possibly will be asked a Reason why the English, so long as they had been, and so much, addicted to Woolen Manufacture, had not profited by the Revolution in Flanders, in this Particular, as it did in many others? And why not as well as the Dutch? This admits of a clear and plain Answer from Mr. Huet ^q, who says, 'twas owing to the municipal Laws of England, and its Usages towards Strangers; who besides being doubly rated at the Custom-house, were excluded from all Companies or Fraternities of Trade; and were not allowed to work, either as Masters or Partners; unless at such as the Natives were unacquainted with: So that none of the Flemish Master fine Cloth Workers (theirs being a Mystery, though very much superior to Cloth-working, then, in England, yet not accounted new) went thither; only such as wrought in Serjes,

40. From the Reign of King *James*, the *Dutch* had been principal Objects of *English* Raillery, as *their* Rivals in Trade, and about the Article of *Wool* especially; which, if at all, was held better to be exported any where, than to the *Netherlands*. And since the *Restoration* particularly, to 1670, it had been much more a Fashion, to arraign *that Republic*, than the *French Monarch*, who then, and not sooner, began to be accused of exercising towards *England*, a real Oppression. *The Matter was thus.*

41. Duties in *France*, on *English* (and all other foreign Cloths were taxed there, in like Manner) had been raised in 1654, from nine to thirty *Livres*: In 1664, to forty: And in 1667^b, to about eighty *Livres*; other *Woolen* Goods, in Proportion; which last being about fifty *per Cent.* amounted to a Prohibition. This the *French King* did, to encourage the *Woolen Manufacturies* of his own Kingdom—to make his People prefer them, for their comparative Cheapness. Moreover, *he* and *his Ministers* had entertained a Project for selling Commodities to their Neighbours, without buying any in Return; consequently, for *Money only*. To this End, and to quit themselves intirely of foreign Assistance, were set up in *France*, an *East India*, and other trading Companies, to the *Levant*, *North*, &c. Also *Manufacturies* of FINE CLOTH, WITH SPANISH WOOL ONLY; giving besides, all possible Encouragement to every Kind of *Woolen Fabric*, and all other *Manufacturies*.

And though the *DUTCH* were betimes wise enough for their Part, to traverse effectually *these Policies* of *FRANCE*; yet was not that done so immediately by the *English*, who received from thence, besides *Druggets*, which *they* affected to wear very much, and besides other Commodities to an immense Sum, in one Species of *Woolen Manufacture*, viz. *SERGES* made at *Chalons*, *Chartres*, *Amiens*, &c. to the yearly Value of ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND POUNDS; nearly, if not fully as much, according to the *British Merchant*, as *English Drapery* exported to *FRANCE* in any one Year, EVER did amount to.

Serges, *Damasks*, *Stockings*, &c. nor for the same Reason, to any of the *Hanse Towns*. By which means, as one principal Cause, the greatest Share of that vast and profitable Trade which was lost to *Antwerp*, centered necessarily in *Holland*, and particularly at *Amsterdam* and *Leyden*. For here, consider, if none of those *fine Cloth-makers* could be admitted in *England*, as *Masters*, or as *Partners*, there was little or nothing to be expected from Underworkers or *Journeymen*, who understanding no more than each their Part; there would be wanting *Skill*, as well as *Stock*, to conduct the MIGHTY WHOLE of an Undertaking in this nicest and most difficult Branch of *Woolen Manufacture*.

REMARK.

* 1667.

¹ See Ch. 184.
§. 5. 19, 20.

42. *SUCH then having been the Commerce before this time^k, for Woolens, between England and France; namely, to pay for those of the latter, ENGLAND imported thither, Cloth, Flannel, &c. of but the like, if not a less Value: How different is this State of Things, from that most commonly¹ given? And what so obvious Remedy had the English, as to have taxed equally to a Prohibition, THE WOOLENS at least of France? Which, however, was not done, nor any Thing else by way of Reprisal, till ELEVEN YEARS after. No Wonder, therefore, if during that Period (we receiving theirs: they excluding our Draperies) there was an extraordinary Cheapness at Home, Demand for, and in Course, Runnage of ENGLISH WOOL, to FRANCE, * particularly, besides what went to HOLLAND, for the Reasons already given: Yet, as this Matter like most others under the same Head, hath been grievously misrepresented: So it may not be an improper Digression here (for what relates to France) to set the Affair in a just Light.*

43. 'Tis commonly said, that France being hitherto unaddicted to Woolen Manufacture, and equally destitute of Skill and Materials for the Work, Monsieur Colbert now FIRST formed the Project of being supplied with BOTH, from England; and succeeded accordingly, BY THOSE MEANS ALONE. This, we say, is the common Account, and common Belief; whereas, but very little of it comparatively, is true.

44. There is Reason to believe THE Woolen Manufacture not less ancient in FRANCE, than in ENGLAND. Mr. Huet says^m that it, and the Linen Trade, first began in France, about the Year 960. Mr. Savary mentionsⁿ a Tradition, of certain Clothworkers at Paris, having first taught the English their Art: Is positive they have Statutes in France, on that Head, from the Year 1188 — In 1511. the French sent into the Low Countries CLOTH, to an equal Value, with what was sold thither from both England and Scotland^p put together — And (as remarked before^q) a Flight of French Refugees, in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth brought to England their Art of making Woolen Stuffs — And before the Dutch and English gained the Levant

^r See

Chap. 184.

§. 20. Note.

* Chap. 184.

§. 19.

* N. B. Hence arose what is called the *Owling Trade* * imputed commonly, though very ignorantly, to the "indefatigable Endeavours, and profound Policy of * Mr. Colbert," but in truth owing to egregious English Folly, or worse.

Trade

Trade in Woolens, THE FRENCH and VENETIANS had it—Before the Year 1603, we read of Woolen Manufacture in FRANCE from 'Spanish' Chap. 12. Wool. — And the actual State at this Time, of Holland, England, and §. 15. Note. France respectively, in Woolen Manufacture, was, as follows: The former had the Vogue for SUPERFINE CLOTHS, OF SPANISH WOOL: England traded largely in middling, and coarser, Kerseys, Serges, Bays, Says, and many other Species of what was then called the new Drapery, besides Stockins: FRANCE, as said by a French Writer, in 1664, (Pupil to Mr. Colbert) whom Mr. Joshua Gee quotes, furnished STUFFS to ALL EUROPE.

45. What then, beyond a general Attention to Fabrics of every Kind, do we perceive to have been the principal Object of FRENCH POLICY at this juncture, in regard to Woolen Manufacture. That, of making the finest Cloths, for their own Use, in order to save so much Money in the Balance of THEIR TRADE, as they had been wont to expend with THE DUTCH and SPANIARDS, in that single, costly Article.

46. The Material, WOOL, FOR THIS PURPOSE; so far as wanted in France, they were under a Necessity of getting from SPAIN: The ART they could learn best from Holland; certainly not from England; where it was then (see §. 39. Note) but in a very infant State; unarrived to that Perfection which it attained before the End of the seventeenth * Century, and in which they have, since that Time, both increased and improved. Chap. 178. §. 16.

47. The French, after having succeeded in this Attempt, set up in the next Place, or rather we may say, revived, * their Manufacturies proper for the Levant Trade. And lastly, they erected Manufacturies of STUFFS, AFTER THE FASHION OF ENGLAND, for their COMMERCE WITH SPAIN — In this Order are noted by Mr. Savary their most memorable recent Improvements in THE WOOLEN TRADE. viz.

48. IN 1646, Nicholas Cadeau, a Native of France, with John Binett, and Ives * of Marfeilles, had Letters Patents for twenty Years, for the sole making of black and coloured Cloths at Sedan, LIKE THOSE OF HOLLAND, The Success of which Manufactory exceeded all Expectation: The Wool they made use of, being SPANISH, OF THE BETTER * SORTS—In 1669, Chap. 155. §. 4, 5. Chap. 158. §. 5.

* It seems as if France, as well as Spain, had through some wrong Measures, lost Ground and gone back in their Cloth and some other Woolen Manufacturies, when Mr. Colbert being placed at the Head of those Affairs, undertook to restore them; which he did; and not without considerable Improvements.

- * Chap. 155. §. 4, 5, 6. *Sieur Vanrobais, a DUTCHMAN, had also a Patent for making FINE CLOTHS at Abbeville in Picardy, after the Fashion of SPAIN, and ^a HOLLAND; his Workmen to be brought from the latter; his WOOL, THE BEST OF SPAIN ONLY: And which succeeded, even beyond that of the Sieur Cadeau at Sedan *—Towards the End of the seventeenth Century, and NOT SOONER, the Sieur Masseau set up a Manufactory of Cloths, after the Fashion of ENGLAND and HOLLAND, at Caen in Normandy, with SPANISH WOOL ONLY—The Sieur de Varennes having brought WORKMEN FROM HOLLAND, undertook to make CLOTHS for the Levant Trade, at Saptés*
- ^a Chap. 167. §. 7. *near Carcassone in ^a Languedoc: THIS MANUFACTURY, called a royal one, was the Model and the Mother of all the rest of that Kind; in particular,*
- ^b §. 8. *that of Clermont Lodeve, which followed soon after—The Sieur ^b Castenier succeeded in the same Way, no less than those beforementioned—The States of Languedoc added two others; one, at Rieux, under the Conduct of Sieur Gurse, a DUTCHMAN; the other, near Penzenas, under the Direction of FRENCH MANUFACTURERS—Thus far appear no Names of WORKMEN that seem ENGLISH; nor any Signs of ENGLISH WOOL—The last royal Manufactory in Languedoc, mentioned by Mr. Savary, is that of Mr. Chamberlin, who by his Name, might possibly be an Englishman, or of*
- ^c §. 9. *English Extraction—He did not ^c make for the Levant: Only WOOLEN STUFFS, AFTER THE FASHION OF ENGLAND, for the Spanish Trade—*
- ^d Chap. 184. §. 24. *Yet was it never so much as pretended, except by Mr. ^d Postlethwait, that any English, or Irish Wool, was imported into Languedoc—On the contrary, Wool employed there, is partly, of the Country; but a greater Part is brought from*
- ^e Chap. 167. §. 3. *Marseilles^e; and that, imported, from Constantinople, Panorme, Smyrna, Alexandria, Cyprus, Cavallo, Salonica, Tunis, Algier, Tetuan, Barbary, Bonne, Castile, Arragon, Majorca, Catalonia, Alicant, Almerie, Valence,*
- ^f Chap. 154 *Carthagena and Malaga, Naples, Leghorn, Genoa^f—WHENCE it is plain, that Spanish, and other Wools, MAY be used for the like Purposes, of STUFF-MAKING^g, with the English and Irish—CONSEQUENTLY, and from the*
- ^g Chap. 140 §. 1. *Whole of the Premises, NEITHER did France DERIVE principally its WOOLEN Manufacture and Trade, as to the ART or MATERIAL, from England; NOR does that Nation DEPEND on the latter, for its Continuance; however,*

^h Chap. 155. §. 2. ** THESE are the particular Manufacturies, which Mr. Savary says ^h, are become the most flourishing in Europe; and for which France was indebted to Mr. Colbert: NOT the Making of Cloths and Stuffs in general, as according to Mr. Postlethwaitⁱ, and several others.*

ⁱ Chap. 184. §. 5, 19, 20.

not, in such a Manner, and to so great a Degree, as hath been currently represented, for near a Century; and ALL, with a View, and for the Sake of supporting ONE Measure; otherwise, for the most part, judged to be indefensible, because a Monopoly, viz. the ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION ON ENGLISH AND IRISH WOOL.

49. We grant indeed, that whereas in 1665, Lewes Bezuel, and Nicholas de la Coudre, began the Fabric of Serges, after the Fashion of LONDON, at Aumale in Normandy, and had a Patent for the same, upon the Report of Mr. COLBERT: Mr. Savary does say, that the best Wool for that particular Purpose, is English, viz. the longest for Warp; the shortest for Woof — But then, by what follows, it seems as if this was only saying in Effect, how those Serges were made in England. For after mentioning that by Reason of the Prohibition, ENGLISH WOOLS were difficult to be procured, he adds, they had recourse to the longest and finest of Berry, for Warp; and for Woof, to the Prime, and second of SPAIN and PORTUGAL — That this Manufactory prospering well, had spread itself to ^k Seignelay, Gournay, ^k Chap. 156. Auxerre, Sedan, Abbeville, Beavais, Boufflers, &c. i. e. to ^l Doncherry; ^{§. 15.} Chap. 158. the WOOL, of Berry, Champagne and Brie — to Mouson and Autrecott; the ^{§. 7.} WOOL, of the Country — To Chalons ^m; the WOOL, of Champagne, Brie, ^m §. 9. Soissonois, Burgogne, and some Spanish Wool — To Paris; the WOOL, prime Segovie, fine Albarasin, and other Spanish Wool, with that of Berry, l'Auxois, Champagne and Brie — To Dreux ⁿ — To Dijon, Marcy, Arnay ⁿ Chap. 164. le duc, Auxonne, Chatillon upon Seine, and Chaffinelle: The WOOL, from ^{§. 16.} Rheims and Troye ^o — THE VAST SUCCESS THEREFORE, OF THIS PAR- ^o Chap. 165. TICULAR SERGE MANUFACTURING, in France, argues plainly, either Eng- ^{§. 1.} lish Wool is not so excellent for that Purpose, beyond many others, as even Mr. Savary judged it to be; or otherwise, our Laws so absolutely prohibi- tory in this Case, have not prevented the FRENCH from having it in immense Quantities — Leaving that Point to be determined by other Circumstances ^p, and ^p Chap. 193. the Advocates for those Laws, to enjoy in the mean while, their darling Opi- ^{§. 90, &c.} nion, we resume the Thread of our History.

50. When the Alarm was taken in some Degree, at French Impositions on English Drapery; instead of proper Reprisals, by prohibiting, or taxing to a Prohibition, their Commodities, as might have been, all the Endeavours used ^q, were to prevent (what Experience hath shewn to be impossi- ^q Chap. 50: ble) the Owling Trade to FRANCE, from England, and Ireland. Which Im- ^{§. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.} possibility

possibility some in the *House of Commons* even then foreseeing, proposed the Expedient of a *Duty*, as more likely to prove effectual to all beneficial Purposes, than a *Prohibition* under any Guard or Penalties whatsoever. But this *Motion* was easily over-ruled, through a Persuasion that nothing but the *latter* could avail the Nation sufficiently, by Reason of the very peculiar Qualities of IRISH and ENGLISH WOOL, then occasionally^a averred, for the first Time, in so many Words, to be such, that one Pack of either, conveyed to France, was a Bar to England, not only in the manufacturing of such single Pack, but of TWO BESIDES into Stuffs, and middling Cloths; which otherwise, i. e. without a Mixture of them, in that Proportion, COULD NOT BE MADE IN THE WHOLE WORLD.

^a Chap. 51.
§. 3.
^c Note.

^t Chap. 41.
§. 4.

51. Another Writer had before asserted^t, that "the WOOLS of ENGLAND were superlative for Fineness to all the World, except SPANISH; which neither by ITSELF, nor by Incorporation with the Wools of ANY OTHER NATION, would be wrought into ANY CLOTH, without the Help and Mixture of ENGLISH WOOLS."—Thus, by two Persons, at different Times, a Belief passed, or seem to pass upon the Nation (and the same or more hath been held by a long Train of Writers since) that neither STUFFS, nor CLOTHS, fine, or coarse, could be made without a Mixture of ENGLISH or IRISH WOOL. And it seemed at that Time to be thought a sufficient Proof of all this, that CLOTHS^u, as well as STUFFS, of various Kinds, were made in FRANCE——That WOOL was exported from^x Ireland in very large Quantities, and from England, in one short Season, to the Amount, as supposed, of TWENTY THOUSAND^y PACKS: By which the Price at Home had been raised for a short Time.

^u Chap. 50.
§. 2.
^x §. 10.

^y Chap. 51.
§. 14.

52. ENGLAND had not only a losing Trade with France; but since the prohibiting of Cattle from IRELAND, had lost a great Share of Trade with that Kingdom; according to Sir W. Petty, THREE FOURTHS of what was before, THEIR foreign Trade. The same was confirmed by Sir W.^a Temple, who predicted still worse Consequences from that Act, if continued; tho' judging it a very partial one, he was of opinion 'twould not last; but unfortunately for this Kingdom, was so far mistaken.

^a Chap. 52.
§. 6.
^a Chap. 53.

53. IN 1674, A Committee of Merchants, appointed to examine the State of Trade between England and France, reported a Balance to the latter, of near ONE^b MILLION yearly: The Commons taking that Report into Consideration, a Bill was ordered to be prepared^c; but nothing done towards

^b Ch. 54. §. 4.
^c Note.

re-

retrieving—Such Interest had FRANCE with the COURT of ENGLAND!—
So that Things went on from very bad to much worse.

54. THE IRISH, from being only Breeders of black Cattle^a, to be fat-^a Chap. 53.
tened in ENGLAND, had themselves become Feeders of them, for a foreign
victualling Trade; which before, was a Branch of English Traffic—Hav-
ing also betook themselves more than formerly, to breeding and grazing
Sheep, poured Quantities of Wool into England, already overstocked with
its own Growth—Moreover, procuring foreign Hands^{*} for the Purpose,^{*} Chap. 59.
had erected several Woollen Manufacturies. Among others, a Company at
London, with a joint Stock of £100,000, and Artisans from the West of
England, set up one near Clonmel in Ireland, for Cloths and Stuffs; and with
THEM, some Wool, and Beef, carried on a Trade to Holland and Germany[†] Chap. 61.
—Accounts from abroad were, that not only French Drapery rivalled
ours in all foreign Parts—but that CLOTH was a Staple Commodity of MA-
NY OTHER NATIONS, who, between their ^{*} finer, and coarser Manufactures,
could both oversell[‡], and undersell the ENGLISH, at any Market—To crown[§] Chap. 59.
all, great were said to be the Abuses put upon Clothiers by Brokers and
Factors of^h Blackwell-Hall, &c.—AN ACT OF COMMON COUNCIL in the^h Chap. 60.
City of London confined all Drapery brought thither for Sale, to certain
Hallsⁱ or Markets, with an Exclusion to all that were unfree of the City,ⁱ Chap. 63.
(unless authorized by Parliament) from buying, selling, cheapening, or in-
specting the same; or even so much as entering the said Halls or Markets
in Market-Time.

55. In consequence of all these, WOOL (said to be eminently^k the Foun-^k Chap. 48.
dation of English Riches[†]; which had been accounted as one Half[‡], and §. 1.

^{*} But why finer? Because the English had not yet gone any considerable Lengths in that Ma-
nufacture of fine CLOTHS, from FINE SPANISH WOOL, which Brewer^l and his Walloons,
had but a few Years before this, brought into England, who, though fifty in Number, could^l Chap. 49.
not be a very considerable Company immediately, for every Part of the Business; making, dying,
and dressing; when besides, Spinners, no doubt, took some Time in training to the full Perfec-
tion that was wanted.

[†] It was said to have been an Observation of Lord Burghley, that “If WOOL fell one Shil-
ling a Stone, it was a MILLION a Year Loss to THE NATION;” meaning, we suppose, a
great Loss in the several Undulations of that original Fund, for Expence, ^m within the Circle
of a Year.

[‡] Icenia Norfolkⁿ.

“Hæc ruris pars, ut occidentis reliquæ, pascendis ovibus magnopere exponitur; pleræque villæ
aut unum, aut duo, aut tria, interdum quatuor vel quinque millia nutriunt; ut intelligas pro-
ceres Angliæ apud Edw. I. de vectigali lanis imposito conquerentes, consulto affirmasse opum
“regni dimidium IN LANIS consistere.”

^m Ch. 65.

ⁿ RELI-

QUIÆ

SPELMA-

NIÆ. (1723)

p. 162.

still

• Chap. 56.
§ 12, 13.

p Chap. 60.
§ 1.

q Chap. 67.
§ 15.

r Chap. 56.
§ 11.

s § 17.

t § 22.

u Chap. 59.
§ 3.

x Chap. 56.
§ 21.

y Chap. 56.
§ 26.

z § 24.

a § 27.

still constituted a large Portion to THE ENGLISH NOBILITY AND GENTRY, of their Wealth) was fallen from its ordinary Price, of TWELVE POUNDS the Sack, and from its more advanced Rate, of FIFTEEN °, and SIXTEEN, to *five, four, and three Pounds ten Shillings*, — RENTS were abated, TWENTY POUNDS at least, and in some Places THIRTY, in the *Hundred*°; and LANDS selling generally for TWO or THREE Years Purchase LESS than formerly, there was more than a Third Part of the Value *lost*; and in *some Lands*°, CONSIDERABLY *more* — Reasons assigned, were, 1. *prohibiting* ° *absolutely the exportation of Wool*, which, 'twas said, had not been the Policy antiently, for any Continuance of Time; but, whenever practised, of *ill Consequence* ° to the NATION. 2. Increase of Wool in *Ireland*, since the Prohibiting of their Cattle in *England*. 3. Very low Rates for Wool in *England* for so long a Time together, had made so many apply to Husbandry, that Corn did hardly afford any Profit * towards Payment of Rent °. Thus was CHEAPNESS OF WOOL, at this Time, held to be a *general Incommodity* ° to THE WHOLE KINGDOM.

WHEREFORE, after asserting that both the *French* and *Dutch* could make STUFFS ° of THEIR OWN WOOL ALONE; after appealing to those who knew any Thing of the *South Parts* of *France*, whether they did not make *good Cloth*, at and about, *Carcassone*, *Bourgen*, *Berry*, and divers other Places, WITHOUT THE HELP OF ENGLISH WOOL? after calling to Witness some *Turky Merchants*, who knew that *Carcassone Cloths* particularly found good Prices, and many Buyers in the *Levant* °. — By Way of Remedy it was proposed (besides obliging strictly the Use of Woolens at Home°, and repealing the *Irish Act*) “ That no Merchant Stranger should “ be suffer'd to buy any *Wool*, till *All Saints* or *St. Martin's Day*; but “ then, that any might buy and export what they pleased; paying for “ every *Sack of Wool*, ° such *Customs* to the King, as the *Parliament* in their “ Wisdom should see fit.”

57 This Expedient was not a casual Thought of one single Person; but after much Deliberation, the joint Opinion of many true Lovers of

* This is a Circumstance which merits some Regard from those *English Land-owners*, who because their Estates consist more in *Corn* than *Sheep-lands*, are apt to treat the Interest of the WOOL GROWER, as *such*, in a subordinate view, and of little Consequence; not considering how much *their own* is involved with *his*; and how liable to be affected with the *low Price of Wool* in the Manner here instanced. — Consequently, it is a Matter, in which the *Universities* are also somewhat concerned, how little soever *those learned bodies* think about it, or how meanly of those that do.

their Country, acknowledged * for such ; *which Opinion was nevertheless* Chap. 57.
 opposed, though with more Rancour than good Argument ; For Ex- § 1.
 ample, confessing, that *Wool* had been falling continually, for fifteen or
 sixteen Years, the precise Time of its being prohibited ^b to be exported, § 6. Note.
 that a Merchant well versed in the Intrigues of Trade, had given it for
 his Sense of the Matter, " If the PROHIBITION were removed, and due
 " Imposts charged upon WOOL, it might better thereby be, either retained,
 " or else rendered so chargeable to our Neighbours, that we might have suf-
 " ficient Advantages over them in that Manufacture " — To this, the § 19.
 main Reply was, " such Impost must be either much, or little — If
 " the former, it might be evaded by Runnage — If the latter, 'twould be
 " too easily afforded for large Quantities " — *As if there was no Me-* § 21.
dium in Arithmetic!

58. *Another Writer* undertaking to give a full and clear Answer to the Chap. 58.
 abovementioned " *Reasons of the low Price of WOOL, the Abatement of*
" Rents, &c. and therefore, for limiting the Exportation of WOOL by a DU-
" TY, rather than a PROHIBITION", desired first, that Regard might be
 had to the Example of *Edward III.*; which was desiring, as usual ^c with § 6.
 him, to build upon a *Lye* — Then, proceeding to " *the Reasons, &c.*" he ^d Chap. 51.
 denied that a low Price for *Wool* was at all in Consequence of the Probi- § 1, 3, 10,
tion, or any Cause of *Rents sinking, Farms thrown up, and other Miseries*
of the Country — *WOOL* (he said) had sold dearer, since the *Prohibition*
*(viz. after * the Year 1650)* than before (1647) and for what it had fallen
 since, THAT, was to be imputed to an *Increase of it*, occasioned by the
Irish Cattle Act †; and to the ‡ *French last great Imposts on English Dra-*
pery

* Here is to be remembred what hath occurred already ^h, concerning *Licences* commonly ^h Chap. 41.
 granted about this Time, for *exporting Wool* — So that it is to be considered, as not, in Effect, § 11.
 prohibited till 1660, viz. 12. Car. 2; which coincides exactly with the Time, from which it
 was acknowledged on all Hands ⁱ to have been falling continually.

† The *Irish Cattle Act* was in 1666; and a *Decay of Rents*, through the *Fall of Wool*, had ⁱ Chap. 56.
 been, according to Sir *William Temple*, the Occasion ^k of that *Act*. § 12. Note.

‡ And the *French last great Imposts on English Drapery*, were in 1667. It is therefore a Mat- ^k Chap. 53.
 ter undeniable, that *WOOL* had fallen merely in Consequence of the *Prohibition* (1660) nor was § 6.
 it any other than the *natural Fruit of such a Measure*.

Yet are we not therefore to conclude that *WOOL* became so much cheaper on account of the
Prohibition, as from £ 15. to £ 5. and £ 4. the Pack — It being impossible in the Nature of
 Things, that between neighbouring Kingdoms or Countries, the same Commodity should be held
 at such very distant Prices, for any Continuance of Time at least. The high Price of *Wool* there-
 fore in *England*, from 1647 to 1660, must be supposed to indicate a Proportionable Dearness
 Vol. II. X x at

pery; and that the *Sinking of Rents*, &c. besides other Reasons, was owing to a *long disadvantageous Commerce* with FRANCE.

59. The former were in the Nature of *chronical Disorders*, proceeding from Obstructions; but this last being like a *galloping Consumption*, there was at length¹, sufficient Sense and Virtue in the Nation (all other Means having failed) to tack to a *Money-Bill*, a Clause for prohibiting the Importation of any *French Commodities*, for three Years, from *March 20*, 1667-8, and to the End of the next Session of Parliament, after those three Years should expire; when for want of such Session², it happened to be continued till the Death of *Charles II.*; and was a Beginning of much public³ Benefit; although that Policy had not its full Effect, till *England* was wholly emancipated from *France*, at, and by the *Revolution*, ten Years after⁴ — However, there was, within a few Years, *viz.* in 1680, and 1681, an Advance in Wool; and also an Advance in *Price*; and probably an Increase in the *Quantity*, of *Woolen Goods* exported; which last, nevertheless, is not to be concluded certainly, because it did appear that foreign Wools (*Spanish* for⁵ Instance) were advanced at the same Time, in much the same Proportion.

60. IN 1680, The *Irish Cattle Act* being near expiring; some Endeavours were used that it might⁶ not be renewed † — It had been alledged that the bringing in of *Irish Cattle*, drained away our Money, and thereby occasioned *Rents of England* to fall, a fifth Part, *i. e.* £ 1600000, in eight

¹ See Ch. 60. at the same Time in neighbouring Countries; and in like Manner afterwards, *vice versa*; of which there is not wanting sufficient Evidence, besides the Reason of it.

² §. 5. Note. And here note further, 'twas not sufficient to assign other Causes for a *Decay of the English Woolen Exportation Trade*; which is not supposable to have been diminished in any considerable Degree at least, merely by *prohibiting Exportation of Wool*: But, As the *Price* of it had been sensibly lowered by such *Prohibition*, abstracted from all other Causes: So 'twas incumbent on Advocates for that Policy to shew that though *Wool Growers* had suffered in their particular Interests, yet THE NATION had found its Account therein, by an *Increase of Woolen Manufacture*, on that very Score; which plainly was not the Case at this Time here under Consideration; neither, we think, at any other, since; although the *English Exportations*, and particularly of *Woolens*, have been since considerably increased.

³ * This Policy, so warmly espoused at the *Revolution*, and ever since most steadily pursued, with great Benefit to the Kingdom, hath nevertheless been, not only erroneously † condemned, as injurious to the Trade of this Nation; but it hath also been falsely represented, that *England* having thereby first broke with *France*, brought upon itself the imagined Injury in its Commerce, for *Woolens especially*; which is a double Mistake — The Facts being evidently otherwise, and as above related (§. 41. &c.)

⁴ † We say nothing here of the incidental bad Effects, so often mentioned already, from this *Act*, through the Increase of *Wool* in *Ireland*, and its consequential Runnage from both Kingdoms; but shall only take notice of its primary direct Intention, with what followed, in that Respect singly.

Millions—This Sir William Petty * called a strange Conceit, since the *Irish* (he Chap. 52.
said) took back from *England* between *treble* and *quadruple* of what they trans- §. 5, 6.
ported thither in Ox Flesh, &c. (which did not exceed £ 80,000 per An-
num) and besides, the Owners of about one Quarter of all real and per-
sonal Estates of *Ireland*, lived and spent their Incomes in *ENGLAND*—
Sir William Temple * denied that a Decay of Rents had proceeded from * Chap. 53.
Irish Cattle; or that the *Act* could be of any Service to *England* in that §. 6.
Respect.—However, undoubtedly it was intended to favour the Northern and
Western Parts of *England*, as BREEDERS OF CATTLE; and the Effect
proved to be, that whereas before the said *Act*, foreign Ships were wont
to victual in *England*, the *Irish* being put under a Necessity of fattening
their own Cattle, had got that * Trade, and the victualling of *English* * Chap. 67.
Ships * besides. For Example then, the Eastern and Southern Parts of §. 13.
ENGLAND, as Feeders, lost the victualling of the *Dutch*; and even Eng- 7. Chap. 66.
lish Merchantmen, Westerly or Southerly bound, victualled, for the most §. 21.
part, but for six Weeks, in * *England*; and took in the rest of their Pro- * Chap. 67.
visions in *Ireland*, or *Irish* * Provisions in *Spain*, according to Contract for §. 6.
the same—Whereupon, against continuing this *Act*, 'twas thus * argued— §. 7.
“ Shall *English* Ships be permitted to victual in *Ireland*? If yea, then
“ *English* Provisions are not spent at Home; which if not done, contra-

* Whence must follow, that what the Eastern and Southern Parts lost, as *Feeders*, was so far a take-off from Northern and Western *Breeders*, as to render them no real Gainers by the *Irish Cattle Act*; while the whole Kingdom besides, if we may credit some Accounts, were considerable Losers—But whatever Change of Price the *Act* might be thought to produce at first, in *Flesh* and *lean Cattle* of *England*, we cannot think it to have made a subsisting Difference; because, if instead of a *Beef Trade* abroad, and the Benefit of victualling altogether *English* Shipping, the former, by this Policy, has been wholly lost from *England*, and, together with a Share of the latter, transferred to *Ireland*; in that Case, though the Stock of *Cattle* to be fed and consumed in *England*, be less; yet the *Vent* for *Flesh* there, being proportionably less also, it is consequently not dearer on the Score of that *Act* (howsoever it may be at Times, for other Reasons) not to mention, that if it really was, the Kingdom could not possibly be a Gainer by an advanced Price of Provisions consumed intirely at Home.—As little can we imagine even breeding Lands in particular, to have received any Advantage from the Exclusion of *Irish Cattle*, in the long run, whatever they might do at first. Because in consequence of that Alteration, many Lands have been turned to breeding of *Cattle*, which were used before, in another Way. The Case, in short, between many *Breeders*, and *Feeders*, being just like that of *grazing*, and *ploughing*: There are who are necessarily *Breeders* and *Husbandmen*; viz. on Commons, and in open Fields; and there is very rich Land, which is most suitable for *Feeding* only. But there is also no little Quantity, indeed a major Part of *English Lands* (such of them as are held in *Severalty*) of a middle Nature, proper for various Uses; and which the Occupants convert from one Thing to another, as they see best; that is, according as the Prospect of a Price for *Wool*, or *Corn*, or *Cattle*, urges them.

“dicts the first Intention of the *Act*—Again, shall the *Irish* be permitted to sell their Provisions abroad, to Strangers? Can we, or ought we to hinder them from so doing? If they do, *England* loses a valuable Branch of its Trade”——But notwithstanding all this, and much more was said, and though no public Measure hath been more generally condemned, and less defended; yet through a Plurality of Voices, under a provincial Bias, ’twas,

§. 16. Note. against common Sense, not only continued, but made perpetual^b.

61. A Bill had been set on Foot, to oblige the wearing of * Woolens: against which, was presented (Nov. 9 1680) A Petition^c of *English Silk-Weavers* †; complaining also of wrought Silks and other Manufactures imported by the *East India Company*; which then began to be spent in the Kingdom to a very large annual Value, (TWO OR THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS) and which we may believe had been increasing, since the Prohibition of *French Commodities*——But the Bill about Woolens was dropped, and the Attack upon the *East India Company* staved off for a while, by the Address and Credit of Sir *Josiah Child*, who made himself their Advocate^e to the Public; and among other Things insisted that *East India Silks* and *Calicoes* did not prey upon *English Manufactures*; but only on those of *Italy, France, Holland, Flanders*; to their Detriment, a MILLION yearly; which consequently, so far, weakening those Powers, did in effect enrich and strengthen^f *England*, in that Proportion ‡.

Chap. 70.

§. 6.

§. 10. Note.

62. About this Time, one *Courteen*^e an *Irishman*, Servant in the Family of the *Queen of England*, carried over into *Portugal* several *Clothiers*

Chap. 193.

§. 44. Note.

* A most reasonable Expedient for Land-owners, as the Law then stood and yet stands, provided popular Dispositions made it practicable^h “the home Consumption of our Manufactures, and particularly our *Woolen ones*, deserves Attention, as the best Means for preventing the Smuggling of our *Wool*, chiefly caused by the Over-abundance of it.——The Promotion of its Consumption seems to have been the Motive of the *Act for burying in Woolen*——But a Law that should have obliged the living to consume more for their Use, would doubtless have produced a Benefit more extensive——The Whims of Fashion, and Demands for Consumption, are fantastic and unaccountable; and yet the Object is of sufficient capital Importance, to be proper Matter of Cognizance and Controul from the legislative Power;——The Abundance of our *Wool* is in some Measure cumbersome to us; and yet one would imagine that we avoided the Consumption of it——In *France*, a contrary Disposition prevails.”

Chap. 14.

§. 16. Note.

† Not only at this Time, but as often as any Thing of that Nature hath been moved in *England*, the *Silk Weavers* have immediately raised an Opposition, with Success^k; and perhaps not improperly, except that theirs, and almost every other Interest, is let loose upon the *ENGLISH WOOL GROWER*, while HE ALONE hath his Hands tied up; is engaged in Society, upon the most unequal Terms that can be.

See Ch. 74.

§. 1. Note.

Chap. 193.

§. 44. Note.

‡ This Argument, though not quite true, in Fact or Reason, is far more plausible than what will occur hereafter, upon the same Subject.

and

and *Bays-Makers*, where they presently set up Manufactures both of *Cloth* and *Bays*; particularly at *Port-Alegre* and *Cavillban* *—Also by particular Encouragement of the *Duke of York*, as *high Commissioner* there, was set up in SCOTLAND, an extraordinary Manufactory for CLOTH^m. Wherefore it was by a Statute of that Kingdom prohibited to import thither any *Stuff* or *Cloth* made of ^aWool; not on Supposition that the said new erected Manufactory was likely to supply Scotland with so much *Cloth* as could be consumed there (although it had made a very great Progress in two Years^o) but as a sumptuary Law, *anent Apparel*—to oblige the People^o to content themselves, till it had sufficiently increased and spread itself, with those *Kinds of Woolens*, which they could and did make in sufficient Quantities: The Scots having for some Years been employed in making *Serges*^p; and being lately come to so much Perfection in them, as to export the same in good Quantities, to *Holland*, *Hamburg*, *Spain*, and the *West Indies*†, and even some by *Stealth*, to ENGLAND^q.

^m Chap. 71.
^o §. 2. Note.
^a §. 3, 19, 20.
^p Chap. 71.
^q §. 12. Note.

^o §. 20.

^p §. 5, 6, 7, 8.

^q §. 5.

63. KING CHARLES II. dying, the Act 29, 30 of his Reign, for prohibiting *French Commodities*, was repealed in the first of *James II*—So much was the Parliament at his Devotion, and himself under Direction of *French Counsels*, although otherwise well apprised of the Nature and Interests of *Trade*,—But *Popery*, and to that End, ARBITRARY POWER, being with HIM an overruling Passion, HE sacrificed thereto all other Considerations. The Parliament indeed, to preserve Appearances, appointed a Committee to consider of Means to keep up the Price of *Wool*^s; and to that End resolved that all Persons should wear *Woolen Manufactures* six Months in the Year—But the *French* immediately stocked *England* with their *Manufactures and Produce*; importing in this short Reign of three Years, to the Value of above FOUR MILLIONS *Sterling*, that was publicly known, besides what was supposed to be done in a more private Manner, to an incredible Sum.

KING
JAMES II.

^r Chap. 122.
^s §. 2.

^t Chap. 72.
^u §. 1. Note.

* In consequence whereof, as *English Cloths* had been prohibited^t before, in *Portugal*: So were soon, after *Kerfies*, and *Cloth Serges*, and *Cloth Druggets*—But then we are to remember that Prohibitions under an arbitrary Government with a dispensing Power^z, are not the same in Kind, with Prohibitions, in *England*, by Act of Parliament.

^t Chap. 66.
^u §. 20. Note.

^z Chap. 106.
^z §. 1.

† Yet without any Mention made of using *English Wool* in, either their *Cloth*, or *Serge Manufactures*.

^z Chap. 196.
^z §. 15-18.

REMARK.

REMARK.

64. Comparing our History of this Period, with the two immediate foregoing ones, there is Reason to think the Woollen Manufacture and foreign Cloth Trade of England, from English Wool, was at least equally great, all Circumstances considered, from Edward VI. to the last of Queen Elizabeth, as at any Time, since the Accession of King James I.; and considerably greater than at all Times after the Restoration; especially to the Year 1678.—We make these Distinctions, Cloth Trade, English Wool, and, all Circumstances considered ——— Because, the new Drapery ^a of Stuffs, Perpets, &c. besides Stockin
- ^a Chap. 28. §. 5. Frame knitting, had improved; and which employed more Hands than Cloth
- ^b Chap. 131. §. 6. did, in the same ^b Quantity of Wool.
2. The English foreign Plantation Trade was new. 3. Spanish Wool had been in a great Measure introduced *—Making therefore due Allowances for these, and for an Increase of Wool in England, and for the Wool of Ireland, and for a general Increase of Trade, and Money, in Europe, we think what we have here said, is most probably true; and so far as we have
- ^c Chap. 27. any particular Accounts of Exports to inform us, certainly so. For Exam-
- ^d Chap. 20. §. 7. Note. ple, the highest extant in this Period. viz. in the Reign of KING JAMES
- ^e Chap. 25. §. 2, 3. (1612-13 ^c) amounts to little more than those to Antwerp singly, about the
- ^f Chap. 43. §. 5. Year 1564 ^d, at the lowest Computation. And as in the latter, the Proportion
- ^g Chap. 49. §. 7. P. S. of Woolens was $\frac{5}{11}$ of the Whole: So by the same Rule of reckoning, the for-
- ^h Chap. 49. §. 2. Note. mer scarcely exceeded in Value, what M. M. Adventurers. alone exported or-
- ⁱ Chap. 39. §. 10. Note. dinarily, during the Reign of Queen Elizabeth—And with regard to Exports,
- ^j Chap. 41. §. 4. they fell short of those in the Reign of King James I.; and consequently, ac-
- ^k Chap. 177. §. 10. * Note. We find no Mention of this Wool, for English Use, in Queen Elizabeth's Reign; neither long before; nor since, till 1651 ^f—Again in 1656; when 'twas said, Cloth of it ^g alone
- ^l Chap. 55. §. 3. Note. COULD NOT be made—About the Year 1667, the Quantity thereof usually imported to Eng-
- ^m Chap. 156. §. 9. land, was not only inconsiderable, but very short of what went from Spain to FRANCE ^h—
- ⁿ Chap. 49. §. 2. One principal Reason, we may imagine, why French ⁱ Druggets (from that Material) were then so
- ^o Chap. 60. §. 4-13. much the Fashion at London—Till after the Year 1668 ^k, 'twas not understood in England how
- ^p Chap. 12. §. 15. Note. to use properly fine Spanish Wools, and in 1677, they were called a "new Sort of Wool, ^l started
- ^q Chap. 49. §. 2. "up within these few Years."
- ^r Chap. 60. §. 4-13. 'Tis true, we read of Spanish Wool very anciently, viz. in the Reign of Henry II.; but in
- ^s Chap. 12. §. 15. Note. Terms, by which it seems not to have been thought good Policy (in regard to the English
- ^t Chap. 12. §. 15. Note. Grower, we suppose) to permit the Use of it, even mixed with English Wool; for which Rea-
- ^u Chap. 12. §. 15. Note. son, CLOTH so made, was to be burnt .

cording

according to the British Merchant, not inconsiderably short of what M M Ad-^a Ch. 87.
 venturers, for their Part only, were used to export, before the Accession of ^{§. 4. Note.}
 King James I.—So that the Woolen Trade of England having declined
 greatly, from the Restoration, the very Time when an absolute Prohibition
 on Wool first took place: THIS may be noted as a Circumstance, making ra-
 ther AGAINST, than FOR the Policy; although we are not to imagine that par-
 ticular Part of the English Trade to have suffered much in this or any succeed-
 ing Period, merely on account thereof. 'Tis rather incumbent on Zealots for
 that Measure, to shew when the Nation did receive the Benefit given out to be
 intended from it; which was, by preventing Exportation of raw Wools, to pro-
 mote the working of them at Home^o, in order to a foreign Vent in Manufac-^o Chap. 196.
 ture. But without accomplishing the former, there is no Possibility of the lat-^{§. 1.}
 ter. That the former could not be, in this Time we are speaking of, is evident
 from many Circumstances, in particular, the low State of Woolen Exports
 from England. And though they will be found to have increased conside-
 rably afterwards, and almost continually; yet shall we see Runnage of Wool
 not therefore discontinued; very far from it—Whence it seems, as if the Nation,
 in having chiefly an Eye to that single Point of Prevention by prohibitory penal
 Laws, had made a Fundamental, of what is not quite necessary; and so far
 as the same is useful, we shall go near to demonstrate that the Means applied,
 have not been competent to the End; however, not to an End, commonly thought
 just; nor consequently, politic to be avowed——In short, if a Prohibition
 never DID, and probably therefore, never CAN prevent totally, it will at most
 but limit, the Exportation of Wool; which if a lower Duty should not
 effect equally, to say no more, a higher certainly would.

C H A P. CXCII.

*From the first Year of William and Mary to the last of
 King William.*

1. **I**N the first Year of William and Mary, was an Act^p for pre-^p Chap. 72.
 venting the Exportation^{*} of Wool, and for encouraging^{§. 32.}

Woolen

^q See the Sta-
 tute 1. Wil-
 liam and Ma-
 ry c. 32.

* Which (it is said) had been practised in great Quantities, through Neglect of Officers, &c. ordaining Wool carried coastwise, to be duly entered, registered, and cocketed; also that no Wool

- “Woolen Manufactures of the Kingdom, and the Growth of Wool; by giving a general Liberty to *all Persons* for the exporting of Woolen Manufacture into any foreign Parts whatsoever” — But with a saving to several Charters, *viz.* of the *Levant, Eastland, Russian, and African, Companies*: Which saving Clause was probably procured, along with other means, by a *Tract* published upon that Occasion, containing *Reasons* in the Names of the Governor, Assistants and Fellowship of Eastland Merchants, against giving such a general Liberty, as the Title of the Act purported; stating therein, that ’twould avail the Nation nothing; could give no additional Vent to Manufacture; for that was only to be effected, EITHER by suppressing foreign Manufactures of Wool (which they themselves knew to be an *Impossibility* *;) OR, which they conceived would give Offence to Landowners; by contriving matters so, that Wool in England might be CONTINUALLY CHEAP; which nevertheless they insisted, was the true Policy †.
- * Chap. 194. §. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10. 2. Wool, at this Time (and so it continued to the Peace of *Ryswick*) was comparatively dear in England, beyond what it had been, since the Restoration, and what Manufacturers and Merchants in general thought well of; although allowed by some of them to be but a reasonable Amends to Farmers for the Pressures they had sustained for twenty Years together: Causes conspiring to a Dearness of Wool in this Period, were.
1. The Havock and Spoil of Ireland, for three Years, during the War there. 2. The French ingrossing what that Kingdom did then afford, got besides, great Quantities from England. 3. (Which was above all) the Commodity, Wool in general, had advanced considerably in the Markets of Europe, particularly at *Marseilles* b. 4. To these may be added, a great Wool be shipped from Ireland, but from certain Ports there, to certain Ports in England, appointing Commissioners to put the said Act in Execution.
- * Chap. 191. §. 35-37. * Here is to be noted again, as before, of Sir *Josiah Child*, this Tract, which conveyed the Sense of a considerable trading Company, said nothing of any peculiar Properties in *English Wool*, for mixing with foreign; which, if true, they could not but know, and would not have spared to mention; while a private Writer, within two Years after (as if *Irish Wool* was endowed with all the Virtues of *Lord Peters brown Leaf*) had Courage enough to assert occasionally, that one Pound thereof would work up TEN of foreign Wool; by which the Manufactures abroad were enabled to furnish that Trade, which England had formerly to itself.
- † The War commencing, Trade was again prohibited with France; the same having much exhausted the Treasure of England, and lessened greatly the Value and Consumption of its native Commodities and Manufactures — But a Bill in the House of Lords, for enjoining the wearing of Woolen Manufactures of the Kingdom, at certain Times (against which the Silk Weavers petitioned) was unanimously rejected.

Rot in *England*^a (1692) 5. The ill State of Silver Coin, and high Price of Guineas^b thereby occasioned.

3. What had been the State of Trade, *i. e.* the Quantity of Woolens exported, from the Accession of *William* and *Mary*, to the Peace of *Ryswick*, does not appear from any *Custom House Accounts*; and therefore we can only mention other Circumstances. For Example, in 1694, we are informed (although 'tis mentioned as a Grievance) that a swarm of foreign Factors^c from *Holland*, *Germany*, *Flanders*, &c. and even *Persians*^e and *Grecians*, had come over to *England*, and negotiated for vast Quantities of *English Drapery*. And in 1696, it came out occasionally^d, that there had been a great Call, during three Years then passed, for *Woolen Goods*.

4. In the above Interval were, besides that already mentioned (1 *William*^e and *Mary*) THREE several *Acts of Parliament* relating to the *Exportation of Wool*: The first^f of them, enacting that if a private Man of War took a Ship or Vessel laden with WOOL TO BE TRANSPORTED, a Moiety of such Vessel and Lading should be to the Captor: The next, reciting that notwithstanding former Laws, the *Exportation of Wool was still continued*: The THIRD^h, for Explanation and better Execution of former Acts made against Transportation of Wool, recited that notwithstanding several Laws made to prevent it, &c.; nevertheless the *said Exportation was still NOTORIOUSLY continued**. And as there had been Complaints of *London Factors* and *Packers*: So anⁱ *Act* passed, to regulate them.

5. Since the prohibiting of *French Commodities* (Silk and Linen among the rest) Advantage had been taken of importing in larger Quantities *Silks* and *Calicoes* from the *East Indies*. THESE had accordingly for some Time furnished Matter of Complaint in *England*: The former rivalling the *Home Manufacture* of *Silks*; the latter, of *Woolens*; parti-

* For the Truth of these Preambles, with what had been done before, and what in Consequence of this *last Act*, the great Expence and little Success of those Measures that were taken, the Reader is referred to a History of them in another Place; whence, and from what we have seen already, and what will occur hereafter, it may be observed that under Laws of Prohibition, Woolen Exports from *England*, and the Price of *English Wool* there, had their Ebbs and Flows, without any considerable variation, as to Complaints at least, of *Wool running*: Only this may be remarked for a Certainty, that as there hath been upon an Average, a manifest Difference in the Price of *English Wool* in *England* before and since the *Restoration* (when the *Prohibition* took place) the same having been for the most part much lower in this latter Period than the former, and never quite so high^l, as at some Times during the former: So from the *Restoration*, there can be no Time assigned, when selling dearer than common in *England*, there is not ground to believe its being then run, as much, if not more than at any other Time.

^m Chap. 75. particularly *Tammies, Says* ⁿ, and other *Norwich Stuffs*. But till 1696, no
^{§. 8.} formal Attempt was made towards a Redress of this Grievance; when a
ⁿ Chap. 79. *Bill* for that Purpose presented in Parliament miscarrying ⁿ, there followed
^{§. 1. Note.} a Tumult of Weavers in *London*; who had very near seized the Treasure
at the *East India House*—Against this Bill Dr. *Davenant* had been in-
duced to employ his sprightly Pen ^o; and to make light, not only of Silk
^o Chap. 79. and Linen ^p Manufacturies ^{*} in the Kingdom, but of the Consumption
^p §. 31, 38. of WOOLENS at Home—a Failure wherein though (he said) 'twould make
^q Chap. 194. *Wool cheaper* in the *English* Markets, yet was that to be esteemed ^r a na-
^{§. 5—10.} tional Benefit, by reason of its being a Commodity that ABOUNDED ^r almost
^{§. 25.} throughout *Europe*.

^r Chap. 80. 6. And although this Tract of Dr. *Davenant's* was answered ^s properly;
^{§. Ch. 81.} yet another appeared on the same Side, wrote ^t in plausible Terms, and a
Form very argumentative, but most sophistically: Thus, and perhaps by
means of some other Artifices, *East India* Manufactures, though flagrantly
pernicious, were upheld for a few Years longer; and the *Company*, either
flushed with Success, or despairing to maintain long that Traffic against
the landed and manufacturing Interests of the Kingdom, made an egregious
Use of their present Time and Opportunity.

7. Whether by some Management of the *East India Company*, as a Tub
thrown out to save themselves, or not, the *Woolen Manufacturers* of *England*
turned immediately their whole Artillery against that Business then carried
on in *Ireland*; beginning with Petitions from *Exon* and *Barnstaple*, that
were followed (as hath been customary since) by several others, for a Law
to prohibit the Exportation of *Woolen Goods* from *IRELAND* to foreign Parts.

^u Ch. 82. 8. In Opposition whereto, 'twas alledged ^u that the Flock Masters in
^x §. 7. *Ireland* were chiefly Gentlemen, or Tenants to Gentlemen, of ^x *English* Ex-
traction; and Persons employed there in that Manufacture, were also for
^y §. 8. the most part *English* ^y; who having left their native Kingdom for ^z Debt, &c.
^z §. 9. as they could not return, so would they be drove to seek their Bread by
the same Means in foreign Countries, to the Ruin of many thousand
^a §. 10. *English* Families, and of the *English* Interest there; and wherever they
should go, the *Wool* of ^a *Ireland*, if any thought worth while to be grown
after such a Law, would in course be sent after them.

^{*} The former had, near twenty Years before, been said by SIR JOSIAH CHILD, to employ
and maintain FORTY THOUSAND FAMILIES.

9. On

9. On the other Hand, for the *Bill*, 'twas acknowledged that the ^b Chap. 83. same intended, not only to suppress ^c all Exportation of Woolens [†] from [‡] §. 7. *Ireland*, but utterly to discourage the Progress of that Manufacture there, lest in Time they should be able to work up all their own ^d, and *England* ^d §. 6. be deprived of its usual ^e Supply from thence—That this was but an Act ^e §. 8. of Self-Preservation in *England*, the MOTHER COUNTRY; which therefore, as such, had a Right to dictate, not only in that Particular, but some others ^f; and moreover, to command a *Monopoly* of their raw Wools. ^f §. 10.

10. In the Course of this Controversy, a material Doubt, by way of Objection, was started, viz. ^g “Whether such Law, if made, would pro- ^g Chap. 84. bably take effect; it being the Interest of ALL IRELAND to defeat it?” ^g §. 10. And the Answer was, ^h “The Government there being so much under ^h §. 24. “Direction and Influence from *England*,” that Kingdom must necessarily receive and submit to whatever Law should be *so given*.

11. This *Bill* passed the *Commons*, and being committed in the *House* of ^h *Lords*, went off in separate Addresses from each House to King ^h Chap. 85. *William*, that he would use his Endeavours to discourage the Exportation of Wool from *Ireland*ⁱ, except to *England*; and to discourage the *Woolen*ⁱ §. 2. and increase the *Linen Manufacture* THERE—His Majesty acted accordingly. And the *Commons* of *Ireland* readily embracing the Overture for a *Linen Manufacture*, proposed, with regard to *Woolens*, by way of ^k Temperament, ^k §. 4. an HIGH DUTY, to the End (as they said) the same might not be injurious to *England*.

12. THIS only increasing the *English* Jealousy; and a Discovery ^l having ^l §. 6. been made of a contraband Trade with *France*, by means of Passes from the Admiral there, for importing *Alamodes* and *Lutestrings*, and exporting GREAT QUANTITIES OF WOOL, an *Act* followed immediately, ^m reciting ^m §. 7. *Note*. that great Quantities of like *Woolen Manufactures*, as in *England*, had of late been made in *Ireland*, and in the ENGLISH PLANTATIONS in *America*; therefore enacting “1st, That no Person should export from *Ireland*, WOOL or WOOLEN Goods, except to *England* or *Wales*. 2. That no WOOL or WOOLEN MANUFACTURE, being of the *Product* or *Manufacture*

[†] Which, by way of Aggravation, it was ⁿ said, were a far greater Damage, than the sending THEIR WOOL to foreign Parts—A Kind of Paradox, till explained ^o to be a Means of making ENGLISH WOOL sell better in ENGLAND. ⁿ Chap. 83. ^o §. 3. ^o §. 8.

of ANY OF THE ENGLISH PLANTATIONS IN AMERICA, *should be laden, on any Ship, Horse or Carriage, with Intent to be exported out of the said Plantations, to any other of the said Plantations, or to ANY OTHER PLACE.*

13. HEREUPON, many IRISH WOOLEN MANUFACTURERS, it hath been said, transported themselves to *France, Germany and Spain*; where being kindly received, they followed their Business, to the Prejudice of *England*, in its WOOLEN TRADE.

14. Howsoever that was in Fact, Experience, which is the best School-
 See Ch. 85. §. 8—12. Mistress, tells us, that the *Irish* were not long or much disconcerted^p by the *Act* itself, in THEIR *Woolen Manufacture* and WOOLEN EXPORTATION TRADE; and so far, some Writers on each Side of the Question, have proved to be mistaken—Not so, the Person who was of Opinion, “ a Law in “ IRELAND would not take effect, which it should be the Interest of THAT “ WHOLE KINGDOM to defeat.”

15. Moreover, as it was then objected to this visionary Scheme for suppressing the *Woolen*, by setting up a *Linen Trade* in IRELAND, that the latter would lessen the *English* Vent of WOOLENS to *Hamburg*, &c.: So it is said to have proved; and though perhaps, upon the whole, no considerable Loss to the Nation, yet no real Gain! but like many, most other Projects from the same Quarter, an Injury to the *English Owner of Sheep Lands*, by rendering that MONOPOLY against him, which is occasioned through an *absolute Prohibition on Wool*, so much stronger and more grievous.

16 This Affair with *Ireland* being thus ended, *East India Silks*, and
 Chap. 87. Calicoes, were again the Object of Attention^a. The Silk Weaving Trade
 §. 3. in *England* having increased (as it was^r said) nineteen Parts in twenty, from the *Restoration* to the *Revolution*, was become a vast Branch of Business in the Nation; affording Employment and a Maintenance to great Numbers. And although *East India Manufactures* at first preyed chiefly
 §. 7. upon *Woolens only*; afterwards, in consequence of the *Directors*^r having sent over Weavers, Dyers and Pattern Drawers, to instruct *Indians* how to suit
 Chap. 70. the *European Taste*, was for some Time (as said by *Sir Josiah Child*) only
 §. 6. a Detriment to *France* and other foreign States; yet now that Trade with *France* had been prohibited upwards of ten Years, and the Fabric of
 Chap. 87. *Lutestrings*,^u &c. pretty well established in the Kingdom, *Damasks*, and
 §. 9. *Sattins of East India*, as foreign Commodities, became, it seems, the Mode with

with *English Ladies* — So that these, and Calicoes together, interfering with *London, Canterbury and Norwich Weavers*, Multitudes of the two former especially, were said to be reduced to a miserable * starving * § 4. Condition, for want of Employment.

17. Wherefore, an *Act* readily passed, intituled, *for the more effectual* * § 14. *employing of the poor, by encouraging the Manufactures of the Kingdom*: reciting, * “ that a Continuance of Trade to *India*, as had been two Years * Note. “ before, must inevitably be to the Detriment of this Kingdom, by exhausting its Treasure, and taking away the Labour of the People:” Therefore, prohibiting the “ wearing and otherwise using all wrought “ Silks, &c. of the Manufacture of *Persia, China, or East India*, and all “ Calicoes, painted, dyed, or stained *there*.” *

18. About the same Time passed another * *Act* (which could not fail * § 16. of being beneficial also) for immediately taking away the Duties upon *Woolen Manufactures, &c. exported*; which Duties had existed from *Philip and Mary* ^b: Also the *Aulnage Duty*, after the Expiration of two Grants, ^b Chap. 26. §. 3. Note. for a Term then enduring.

* HEREUPON HAS BEEN * SAID “ THIS ACT was procured by that great Statesman * Serious Considerations on “ THE EARL OF HALIFAX (while he was MR. MONTAGUE) what Good this has done, “ I leave others to judge. But this I know, that this very Nobleman declared to a Person of the several “ Credit (who told it me) that in his Life Time, he had never done any Thing which he so high Duties “ sincerely repented of; but it was now grown so popular among the Weavers and others of the &c. 1743. “ inferior Sort, that it would be dangerous to attempt to repeal it.” p. 22, 23.

Note. We shall not question the late Sir Matthew Decker's Veracity (Author of this Tract, not of that intituled “ An Essay on the Causes of the Decline of foreign Trade,” as many have, by Mistake supposed) who did not speak from Lord Halifax himself — But we can't help thinking that he was some Way or other, either mistaken, or imposed upon about this Matter; seeing it was THE SAME MR. MONTAGUE, who afterwards, when EARL OF HALIFAX, was the Support ^d and Spirit of that Paper called THE BRITISH MERCHANT (1713-14) which was wrote ^d Chap. 97. exactly upon those very Principles which procured this Act; and wherein is laid down for a Maxim, §. 13. that “ The Importation of such Goods as hinder the Consumption of our own, or check the “ Progress of any of our Manufactures, is a visible Disadvantage *” (See Chap. 80. Chap. 100. * Chap. 98. Chap. 117. §. 6, 7, 8) And here note besides, Sir Matthew Decker neither giving the supposed §. 10. Reasons of Lord Halifax having changed his Opinion in this Point; nor offering any particular Reasons of his own, for East India Silks and Calicoes, the Authority he pretended, amounts at best, but to a very bad Argument against the Act in question — He gave, 'tis true, this general Reason, viz. that in his Opinion, and he made no Question, of most Merchants ^f, ALL PROHIBI- ^f Chap. 98. TIONS are hurtful — Yet, not without admitting, there may be Cases, in which Necessity will §. 1. Ch. 193. call for them — But, it seems, as a Person who HAD BEEN at least, A DIRECTOR of the §. 26. Note. EAST INDIA COMPANY, he could not see the Necessity of A PROHIBITION in that particular Case, of EAST INDIA MANUFACTURES — We have elsewhere ^g, though no Friend ^g Review &c. in general to PROHIBITIONS, attempted to distinguish the Propriety of one, in this very Case, rather than that of ENGLISH WOOL, or almost any other. Part III. p. 21. (See Chap. 193. §. 74. Note.

19. The §. 74. Note.

19. The two foregoing Acts were in 1699; in which Year precisely, the Woolen Exports were remarkably great (amounting to very near **THREE MILLIONS**^g) larger than known before, or afterwards, to 1713, when *The British Merchant* was published; notwithstanding which, there was much complaining^h at this very Time, the next Year, and Year following, which was the last of *King William*, that *the Woolen Manufacture of the Kingdom was exceedingly*ⁱ *decayed, and foreign Trade for it sensibly diminished*^k. And though there might be some Truth in one, through a Defect of home Consumption, occasioned by an Increase of *Silk Manufacture* in the Kingdom, and of *East India Goods* (the Time for wearing which was not yet expired) yet the other was evidently a Misapprehension, to be accounted for as follows. 1st, from the natural Proneness of Persons in a *Trading Way* * especially, to complain. 2dly, Hearing of *Wool exported*, and of *Woolen Manufacturies* in neighbouring Countries, 'twas vulgarly conceived to be, ALL, the Effect of *English and Irish Wool*, and so much clear Loss to the Nation.

REMARK.

20, In this Reign, RUNNAGE^l OF WOOL was equally a Complaint, as it had been in those of Car. II. and James II.; and probably with much the same Reason, although there is no ascertaining the Measure of a Practice, which in its Nature must be secret.

21. A^m DECAY OF WOOLEN MANUFACTURE, and a DIMINUTION OF FOREIGN TRADE FOR IT, were also alike deplored, all along under King William, as in the two foregoing Reigns; but not with the same Cause in respect to both. 'Tis true, Woolen Manufacturers might be supposed to suffer thro' a Defect of Home Consumption, by an Increase of Silks wrought within the Kingdom, and by increased Imports of East India Manufactures, in case the prohibiting of French Silks, ⁿ Serges and Druggets did not counterbalance.

—But English Exports in general, and of WOOLENS in particular, greatly exceeded in this last Reign, those of the two former, so far as the few Accounts that have occurred, do inform us; which though perhaps it may be said,

* 'Twas an Observation of SIR W. GODOLPHIN; "for the Generality of THEM to be complaining, is inseparable from the Nature of THAT PROFESSION; THEY measuring their Content, not by the Goods they have, but by their Desire of having MORE" (Letter from Sir W. Godolphin, Madrid, July 4, 1674)

are

are too few to found a perfect Knowledge or Judgment upon; yet without being mathematically certain, or minutely scrupulous, are a good moral Proof*.

For Instance, the whole Exports from England, in two several Years ° of ^{Chap. 43.}
Car. II. did not much exceed two Millions; nor the Woolens exported, ^{§. 7. P. 8.}
£ 900,000, in each of those Years. But in one Year of King William (1699) ^{Ch. 49. §. 2.}
the whole Exports amounted to near SEVEN MILLIONS †; of which THE ^{Note.}
WOOLENS were almost THREE. ^{Ch. 87. §. 4.}

22. 'Tis true, Woolen || Exports 1699, exceeded any Year that had been known before, or after, to 1713^p. But the Medium of those Exports, to-^p ^{Ch. 176.}
wards the End of the seventeenth Century, having been stated at TWO MIL-
LIONS per Annum, we are thence authorized to say, there had been no Di-
minution of our Woolen Trade, during King William's Reign; very much
the contrary. And that being so, 'twill perhaps be said, there could not be
such Quantities of Wool run from England, as when the foreign Trade was

* Because they are not Accounts picked out to serve a Turn; but, in Truth, ALL which have occurred. And as, if those of each Year, for any long Term, had been regularly taken; and a Person, to learn the Medium nearly, should (dipping into the whole) govern himself by those of some few comparatively, at distant Periods, taken up by chance, and not selected with Design, might think them a tolerable Rule, to reckon by, and on examining the same more narrowly, would probably find them such: So is it to be judged in this Case.

† Besides many others, a principal Cause of the great Increase of Commerce, after KING WILLIAM's Accession, was the PROHIBITING of FRENCH COMMODITIES: An Advantage, which in 1713, THE BRITISH MERCHANT summed up to £ 1110,000^r per Annum, ^{Chap. 103.}
besides PAPER and HATS (which two Articles had been estimated at above £ 220000^s) and be-^{§. 6. Note.}
sides WOOLENS (SERGES and DRUGGETS) which former, according to Mr. FORTRY in ^{Chap. 44.}
1663, ENGLAND was wont to receive from FRANCE, to the Value of £ 150,000 per Annum. ^{§. 8.}
All which considered, and how much those several Manufacturies mentioned by the BRITISH MERCHANT, are improved, since 1713, and that many new ones^t have been erected with ^{Chap. 139.}
Success, 'tis unreasonable, and absurd in the highest Degree, to persist in Complaints of an ima-
ginary Decay of Trade and Manufacture in this Kingdom, from the single View of a WOOLEN
TRADE in FRANCE and other Countries (which there ever was, more or less) especially,
since ENGLAND hath been all along, from the REVOLUTION^u, increasing upon the whole, ^{Chap. 193.}
not going back in its Exportations even of WOOLENS—So that MANUFACTURERS in gene-^{§. 91---96.}
ral, and those of WOOL, among the rest, have had no just Cause of Complaint; except, as
HOME CONSUMPTION hath abated, by means FIRST, of Calicoes, SINCE, of printed and
painted Cottons and Linens; which last affording Employment for an equal Number of Hands,
WOOL^s GROWERS ALONE are thereby the GREATEST, and properly speaking, ONLY ^{Chap. 193.}
SUFFERERS. ^{§. 44. Note.}

|| Not only the WOOLENS, but the WHOLE EXPORTS (1699) exceeded any Accounts we have met with to 1715^y. And possibly there was an extraordinary Start of Trade in that Year, ^{Chap. 176.}
occasioned by the PEACE OF RYSWICK 1697; and moreover, something hath been, and might ^{§. 36—38.}
be said for ENGLISH WOOLEN EXPORTS (1699) by reason of WOOLEN MANUFACTURE
having been then lately prohibited to be exported from IRELAND to foreign Parts—But, as
IRISH EXPORTS OF WOOLENS had not in the whole exceeded £ 23614 4s. 6d. in 1697—So ^{Chap. 126.}
there is no great Advance to be reckoned upon, from that Incident, the Prohibition aforesaid. ^{§. 9.}

less for Woolens; namely in the Reign of Car. II.; which, ceteris paribus, certainly there could not. Nevertheless, considering what hath been remarked before^a, of an increased Growth of Wool in England, and Ireland—The Introduction of Spanish Wool for making fine Cloths—Improvements in Stockins and fine Stuffs, which enhanced the Value of Goods exported, without consuming that English Material in Proportion, possibly Runnage of Wool in King William's Reign, might be very considerable, and from several Circumstances, probably, or rather plainly, was.

^a Chap. 191.
§. 64.

23. Again, admitting the Medium of Woolen Exports in this Reign, to have been TWO MILLIONS per Annum; and although in one Year, they amounted to near THREE; yet as this last was but in the same Proportion, or thereabouts, to the whole Exports from England in 1699, with Exports of Woolens, to the whole Exports to Antwerp^b 1564: So comparing Things with what was the State of Trade in Queen Elizabeth's Time; and making all due Allowances for what hath been already mentioned, the Woolen Trade of England, cannot be said, so far to have exceeded in King William's Reign, what it was under Queen Elizabeth, as to afford any Argument for a Prohibition, rather than a Duty on Wool; and especially, as the former, we have seen, DID NOT PREVENT THE EXPORTING OF WOOL, nor that, AN INCREASE OF TRADE IN GENERAL, AND OF THE WOOLEN TRADE IN PARTICULAR.

^b Chap. 20.
§. 1.
^c Ch: 26.
§. 4.

C H A P. CXCIII.

From the Year 1702^d, to 1755.

^d QUEEN
ANNE 1702.

^e Chap. 88. 1. **Q**UEEN ANNE, immediately on her Accession, ^e recommended to Parliament their preventing the Exportation of Wool. Nevertheless, from that Time, to the Union of North and South Britain, Runnage of it hath appeared ^f rather more than at any other Period. In Scotland, for Instance, by Act of Parliament THERE, in 1704, 'twas allowed to be imported from England and Ireland, and again exported to foreign Parts: Consequently, both Scotch, Irish, and English Wools, were thence publicly

§. 3.

^f §. 7.

lickly transported; chiefly to *Holland*, by reason ^a of War with *France*; altho' ^a Chap. 89.
 some to that Kingdom also, by means of *French Passes*; insomuch that ^{§. 18. 20.}
 Wool of *Scotland*, that ^b Year, was commonly sold by Farmers, from ^b 1704.
 THIRTY TO THIRTY THREE SHILLINGS *Sterling per Tod*, of two Stones, sixteen
Pounds to the Stone. And so excessive was the Transportation mentioned, that
 the Market of *Amsterdam* being rather overstocked; or otherwise, the
 Price of Wool in *Scotland*, having rose too high for that Market, there
 was an Abatement in the next ^c Year's Price; but nevertheless it conti- ^c 1705.
 nued to be bought up for *Exportation*.

2. Though the *Price of Wool in England* ^{*}, does not appear at this Time,
 by any Account that is so well depended upon, as in *Scotland*; yet was it,
 we may believe, somewhat in Proportion [†]; and withal, the *Woolen Trade*
 was undoubtedly very good; the whole Exports from *England* being, in
 1703 ^d, near as much, as in 1699 they had been. And in the same Year ^d Chap. 81.
 was signed at *Lisbon*, ^e between *Portugal* and *England*, a Treaty of Com- ^{§. 4.}
 merce; which by admitting ALL BRITISH WOOLEN MANUFACTURES, ^e §. 6. Note.
 on the ancient accustomed Terms, instantly was, and ever ^f since, hath ^f Chap. 184.
 proved to be, very advantageous to *England*, in the *Woolen Trade* particu- ^{§. 144.}
 larly; forasmuch as, from that Treaty first taking place, the *English* began
 to bring away Silver; when before, if not from the Time of their pro-
 hibiting *English Cloths* (which had continued forty Years) yet from the
 Time of their prohibiting more strictly, not only *them*, but *Cloth-Serges*, and
Cloth Druggets (which had continued twenty Years) the Nation never had
 an Over-balance there, so as to bring from thence either Gold or Silver. [‡].

3. The

^{*} It is said [§] to have risen exactly at this Conjunction, from 9 and 11, to 12, and £ 14 the [§] Chap. 141.
 Pack, although for a very contrary Reason. ^{§. 9.}

[†] It was equally penal to send Wool to SCOTLAND, as to foreign Parts; and therefore
 being only squeezed thither clandestinely, through the Hands of illicit Traders; as they would
 have a Profit accordingly; so consequently the Price was less in ENGLAND, than in SCOTLAND.

[‡] From this and many other Instances it may be observed, that next to FAIR DEALING of
 MAKERS and MERCHANTS (who have BOTH been almost continually Objects of Complaint;
 and latterly, as much as ever) the great Secret of promoting the WOOLEN TRADE of ENG-
 LAND, consists, NOT IN COMBINING AND PLOTTING AGAINST THE GROWER; BUT
 in proper TREATIES OF COMMERCE. It is comparatively, of very little Significance, what
 Countries do or do not produce Wool, or afford WOOLEN MANUFACTURE (since most,
 if not all, have, and WILL inevitably have BOTH, in some degree at least.) The grand Policy to
 be laboured for a national Benefit, is THE ADMISSION OF ENGLISH DRAPERY IN FO- ^h Chap. 152.
 REIGN COUNTRIES, ON EASY TERMS IN POINT OF DUTY. This is eminently to be ^{§. 14.}
 seen in the Case of PORTUGAL; where tho' WOOLEN MANUFACTURIES had been established, ^{Chap. 172.}
 and the Country produces BETTER ^h than ENGLISH Wool; yet in Virtue of MR. ME. ^{Chap. 172.}
 VOL. II. ^{THUEN'S §. 27.}

3. The State of WOOLEN MANUFACTURIES in *Scotland*, about the Year 1705, appears to have been as follows: They made, of *their own Wool*, STOCKINS, at *Aberdeen*, from TEN, to THIRTY SHILLINGS a Pair, *Broad Cloth*, about TWELVE SHILLINGS per Yard: *Fingrins*, *Bayse*, *Serges*, *Temmins*, and ALL SORTS of *fine worsted Camlets*, and other *Stuffs*ⁱ, VERY NEAR AS GOOD as in *England*; besides *Glasgow Playds*, in which, as well as *Stockins*, they excelled greatly all Nations ^k.

ⁱ Chap. 89.
§. 7. 12.

^k Ch. 120.
§. 14.

^l Chap. 91.
§. 8.

1707.

^m Chap. 91.
§. 10. 11.

4. The Union^l of both kingdoms commencing May 7, 1707, a Stop was put to the open Exportation of Wool. Two^m Acts passed: One, to encourage dressing and dying of Cloths within the Kingdom, by laying a small Duty on *Broad Cloths exported white*: The other, for permitting generally the Exportation of all white Woollen Cloths whatsoever. These had been prohibited 14, 15 Henry VIII.; but by Patent of Queen *Elizabeth* allowed to the *Hamburgh Company*, in a limited Number; and by *Car. II.* in trust for the *Countess of Portland*, without Limitation of Number, for a Term then expired; whereupon a Doubt having arisen at the *Custom-House*, touching the *Legality* of exporting *white Cloths*, &c.; and the same having been not only judged *beneficial*, but declared to be NECESSARY[†], 'twas enacted accordingly.

5. In

THUEN'S Treaty, ENGLISH CLOTHS, &c. which before stood prohibited there, being admitted upon Conditions that were practicable, this Nation has ever since enjoyed a most beneficial Trade for them to THAT KINGDOM. And it may be affirmed, that in ALL COUNTRIES, where not barred by A PROHIBITION, or, which is still more, DUTIES CALCULATED FOR PREVENTION, *Manufactures*, though not BETTER, but WORSE than THEIR OWN, will find a Vent according to their Value, and the rather, FOR THE VERY REASON OF THEIR BEING FOREIGN: Which shews, what is Wisdom in ALL MANUFACTURING NATIONS; namely, like private Traders, to deal out their Custom in the best Manner they can; that is, with THOSE WHO USE THEIR OWN SHOPS OR WARE-HOUSES.

† And what was the NECESSITY alledged, other than a plain Acknowledgment, that Foreigners wanted neither ART nor MATERIALS for making CLOTH, &c. For else, would it not be just as adviseable to make the most thereof, by prohibiting Exportation of MANUFACTURE UNFINISHED, as of the MATERIAL RAW? But for prohibiting the latter, it has been pretended that other Nations HAVE NOT the MATERIAL, and CANNOT want the MANUFACTURE, but MUST be furnished with one or the other, from ENGLAND. THIS was exactly the Pleaⁿ HERETOFORE, against exporting UNDRESSED AND WHITE CLOTHS, &c, as SINCE, RAW WOOL (for *that* was not THEN prohibited.) If, therefore, a Supposition of other Nations not having the Material, without coming to ENGLAND, is given up for false; and hereby plainly it is, as necessarily it must be—and if 'tis only urged (which is very true) how much better it is to export Wool manufactured, than raw? We answer, for the same Reason, it is also better, in a Degree, to export CLOTHS, &c. DRESSED AND DYED, than ROUGH AND WHITE. Yet in this latter Case, we see, it has been judged good Policy, to make only the Difference of a small Duty, between one and the other; and

ⁿ See Ch. 31.
§. 1.

5. In 1708-9, the *English Trade* was said to be in a very prosperous^{1708-9.} State every where; particularly at *Lisbon*, in consequence of the advantageous Treaty abovementioned, with that Kingdom, and very large Supplies of Gold received by the *Portuguese* from their Mines in *America*.— Nevertheless, War with *France* continuing; and *Wool*, for that Reason, and by means of the *Union*, being either smuggled in less Quantities, or with more Hazard and Difficulty *, 'twas from that Time, to the Peace of *Utrecht*, a falling Commodity, in *England*.

6. At *Utrecht*, besides the *Peace*, was concluded a *Treaty of Commerce* with *France*, that fortunately for *England*, could not take Effect, unless the *Parliament* should reduce the *high Duties*, and take off those *Prohibitions*, which had, by that Authority, been wisely laid on *French* ° *Commo-* ° Chap. 97.
dities. §. 3.

7. THIS the *Ministry* attempted, although they had taken no Care for *English Draperies* being admitted in *France*, upon any tolerable Footing; by which the Nation must have relapsed into that Underbalance of Trade, and all those Miseries consequently, which it had endured for a great Part of the Reign of *Car. II.* and during that short one of King *James II.* and with an additional Disadvantage, of foregoing a most profitable Treaty of Commerce with *Portugal*. But this Attempt was so well opposed by those who better knew, or loved the Interests of their Country, than the *Ministers* did, that the *Bill* they had prepared, notwithstanding their Ascendancy in most other Questions, was rejected by a Majority of *nine Voices* ^P; which yet they did not despair of carrying at another Meeting; ^{§ 12.} to which End, that Session was dismissed with a Hint from the *Throne*,

and that, FOR ENCOURAGEMENT OF DRESSING AND DYING. By Parity of Reason, therefore, as WE are not solely possessed of the Material, WOOL; and consequently CANNOT ENGROSS the Manufacture; so, rather than create, as is done, A MONOPOLY AGAINST THE GROWER, would it not be equal good Policy, to prefer A DUTY ON WOOL EXPORTED, to an ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION; only making SUCH DUTY LARGER, in Proportion to the Difference of the two Cases, so as to encourage MANUFACTURING, rather than EXPORTING OF WOOL? If it be said that this PERMISSION for UNRESSED AND WHITE CLOTHS, &c. together with A PROHIBITION ON RAW WOOLS, are EQUALLY calculated to PROMOTE MANUFACTURE, we answer, THEY ARE NOT ALIKE EQUITABLY SO; for that this latter Policy, at best, treats the GROWER OF WOOL, as if HIS Interest in the Community was NOTHING, HIS PROPERTY of no Consideration to HIMSELF, but to OTHERS ONLY — IN SHORT, AS IF THE WOOL GROWERS MONEY DID NOT COME TO MARKET, LIKE OTHER PEOPLES.

* In 1707-8, it was reported from a COMMITTEE "that GREAT QUANTITIES ^{of} ^{Chap. 182,} ^{§. 1.} Wool had been clandestinely exported to foreign Parts."

as if, to be approved, it only wanted to be more considered, and rightly understood.

§. 13.

Chap. 97.
108.

8. A hireling Writer, under the Title of *Mercator*, or *Commerce retrieved*; continued to vindicate the *Bill*. And several ingenious Traders of Consideration, countenanced and assisted by *the Earl of Halifax*, and *General* (afterwards *Earl*) *Stanhope* ⁹, furnished out a Paper against it, called the *BRITISH MERCHANT* *, or *COMMERCE PRESERVED*.

9. *The Mercator* insisting much upon the Benefits of foreign Commerce, with *France* in particular, presumed greatly upon *England's* natural Advantages from its Produce, *WOOL*; which he affirmed to be of *so peculiar a Quality*, that the Nation wanted nothing more, than *to prevent its being exported raw*, in order *to command a Trade in Woolen Goods, on any Terms, with France, and all other Nations*.

Chap. 100.

§. 13.

10. On the contrary, *The British Merchant* shewed to a Demonstration, that the best Trade of *England* was, *its domestic Trade*, so far as that should consist in the Consumption * of *its own Produce and Manufactures*; since *home Consumption* (he said) made more than NINETEEN Parts, in TWENTY, of the WHOLE TRADE of *England*; which, as to *home Produce, and Manufactures*, would be very much lessened by admitting *French Commodities*; and that, without a Possibility of procuring any considerable Vent for *English Woolens*, in *France*; where they not only stood barred effectually by very high Duties, but the *French* themselves were great Makers and Exporters too, of all Kinds of Woolen Drapery; and without being obliged to *England* or *Ireland* for it, COULD NOT WANT WOOL IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES, FOR ANY PART OF WOOLEN MANUFACTURE.

* Which, notwithstanding it gives a very different Notion and Account of the WOOLEN TRADE in general, from most Authors who had gone before; notwithstanding it was first published in detached Parts, and read in all Coffee houses, &c. of the Kingdom, and hath since undergone a second, and a THIRD Edition, has been as little attended to by subsequent Writers upon the Subject, and made as little Impression upon the Minds and Opinions of the People of ENGLAND, as if such a Work had never been published for their Information.

These Papers indeed, when printed the second Time (1721) in a respectable Form, obtained their Place, as Books of Consequence, in several Libraries of Note — But the Title having no immediate Reference to WOOL; and the principal Scope thereof being, the TREATY, or BILL OF COMMERCE, with FRANCE, which was rejected, and which, therefore, the Nation hath not since, been under any particular Necessity of considering; hence it has come to pass, that what lyes interspersed in those Volumes, relating to WOOL, has been in a manner WHOLLY UNOBSERVED; which could not have happened to a Work of such Credit and Authority, had it treated more distinctly on THAT SUBJECT, BEYOND ANY OTHER.

11. *The*

11. *The British Merchant* shewed also what Advantage *England* had by its Treaty with *Portugal*; and that it would be losing the same inevitably, to ratify the *Articles of Commerce* with *France* †. It went still further, and shewed that by the *Peace of Utrecht*, Trade from *England*, with *Spain*, had insuperable Difficulties; and, as such, the *House of Lords* represented that Matter to the Queen. ^{Chap. 108. P. 8.}

12. Notwithstanding which, 'twas reckoned upon, as one Advantage resulting from the Peace, that *Wool*, which before, was fifteen Shillings *per Tod*, did thereupon advance * to eighteen Shillings—But this was said * Chap. 109. P. 8. to have been, from a false Expectation raised, by what was given out concerning the *Peace*, before its Terms were rightly understood; and that the Nation being soon undeceived, as well in regard to the *Spanish*, as *French Trade*, the same presently dropped † again. N. B. This was said † Chap. 104. §. 1, 2, 3, 4, by THE BRITISH MERCHANT, both of MANUFACTURE, and the MATERIAL; though we believe, not quite truly, of the latter especially; and possibly for this Reason, viz. BECAUSE, upon the Peace, *Wool* from *Ireland*, finding an easier Passage to *France*, it went in larger * Quantities thither, * Chap. 126. §. 10. and came in CONSIDERABLY LESS TO *England*, viz. less by TEN THOUSAND PACKS in 1714, than in 1711.

13. KING GEORGE, in a Speech to his PARLIAMENT, March 2, 1714, ^{KING GEORGE. Chap. 110. §. 1.} observed that by the Peace, TRADE * was rendered impracticable; and if not retrieved, their Manufactures, and Navigation, MUST be destroyed. This Affair had, therefore, deservedly, so much Attention from the Government, that, December 14, 1715, was ratified at *Madrid*, a Treaty of Commerce, between *Great Britain* and *Spain* †. By which, Duties on ^{§. 5. Note.} English Goods in *Spain*, that had been much raised in consequence of the *Utrecht Treaty*, were lowered to what they had been in 1667; and besides, the *French* were to pay the same Duties for their Goods at dry † Ports, † Freeholder, No. 41. through which they passed by Land Carriage, as the *English* did for their Imports and Exports by Sea—An Advantage to *England*, which the TREATY OF UTRECHT had not provided for!

† Thus we see, how the vulgar, home-bred Notion, of PECULIAR QUALITIES in ENGLISH and IRISH WOOL (which, so far as discredited, is nevertheless by many of the more knowing, deemed an HARMLESS, if not, to our WOOLEN TRADE, a BENEFICIAL ERROR) went near to have ruined utterly the best Branch of it; since that was a principal Argument, whereon its Advocates relied, for ratifying the MOST PERNICIOUS TREATY abovementioned, OF COMMERCE WITH FRANCE.

^d Chap. 3.
§. 3. 4.

14. It was signified to the *Lords of Trade, &c.* that *Stuffs, Kerseys, Linsey Woolseys, Flannels, &c.* were manufactured in NEW-ENGLAND, to the yearly Value of FIFTY THOUSAND POUNDS.

^e 1716.

^f Chap. 113.
§. 2.

15. Exportation * of *Wool and Woollen Manufacture* from *Ireland*, being Matter of fresh Complaint: An *Act* ⁱ passed, "for more effectual Discovery and Prosecution of Offenders" in that Way. And in the Year following ^s, RUNNAGE OF WOOL FROM ENGLAND, occasioned an Order of Council ^h, for "military Officers on the Coasts, to assist those of the Customs in preventing it;" while, for two Years successively, Wool sold

^g 1717.

^h §. 3.

ⁱ Chap. 113.

§. 3. Note.

Chap. 171.

No. 1, 2, 3,

^k Chap. 114.

^l Chap. 115.

§. 1. 2.

at a higher ⁱ Price, than it had done for several before, or at any Time since; THEREFORE, under a Notion, or Pretence at least, that the *French*, and other Foreigners, could not work up *their own Wool*, without a Mixture of *English or Irish*, 'twas proposed in 1717, by Mr. Carey^k, Merchant of Bristol, to have a Registry thereof, under the Conduct of Excise Officers. But instead of that, two *Acts* ^l were passed, with further Penalties and Precautions against Runnage.

16. Since wearing, or otherwise using of *Calicoes, dyed, stained, painted or printed* in the *East Indies*, had been prohibited, the Business of printing, painting, staining and dying them, had been taken up in England, and prosecuted with so much Success, that they had become a great Fashion, and a very grievous one; by abating the Use of *Silk and Woollen Manufactures of the Kingdom*; even to the occasioning a Riot of *Spittle-fields Weavers*; which the *trained Bands* were obliged to quell. And a Person styling himself Merchant^l, undertook, not only to condemn that Riot, but to justify the Use of *Calicoes*, as interfering (he said) neither with *Silks*, that were much dearer, nor *Worsted*^m, that were considerably cheaper.

ⁱ Chap. 116.

^m §. 4, 5.

ⁿ Chap. 117.

17. In ⁿ Reply, the *Weavers Complaints* were held to be very just; and the *Merchants Argument* for *Calicoes*, extremely confident and foolish. In the next ^o Session of Parliament, so many Petitions were presented on that Head, with such Reasons given, that an *Act* ^p followed, "to preserve and encourage the WOOLEN and SILK MANUFACTURES of the Kingdom; and for more effectually employing the poor, by prohibiting the using and wearing (after December 25, 1722) of all printed, painted, stained or dyed *Calicoes* * except those dyed all blue. The like Prohibition was extended to

^o 1719.

^p Chap. 118.

§. 7.

" all

* And here again, the old EAST INDIA DIRECTOR, Author of SERIOUS CONSIDERATIONS

"all Stuff made of or mixed with Cotton, printed, &c." with an Exception to "Muslins, Neckcloths, and Fustians."

18. About this Time^a, the Plague raged at *Marseilles*; which putting^a 1720. a Stop to the *French Trade*, Demands abroad for *English Woolen Goods* were^a thereby supposed to be greatly increased; in Fact, were somewhat^a Chap. 123. enlarged^a, altho' the *Price of Wool in England*, actually^a fell; and con-^a §. 5. tinued to decline, till 1728; while the Medium of *English Woolen Exports*^a Chap. 174. §. 8. (from 1725) was increased, at the Rate of about TWO HUNDRED THOU-^a Chap. 171. SAND^a POUNDS A YEAR. No. 1, 2, 3^a 4^a No. 5.

19. During the Effects of the Plague in *France*, WOOL OF IRELAND, having a less Vent *there*, was brought to *England* in greater^a Quanti-^a Chap. 126. ties; and that is one very probable Reason why THE PRICE OF WOOL abated^a §. 19, 20. in ENGLAND, although its Trade abroad for WOOLENS was increased.

20. But the Cause of that Interruption, which had been between *France* and *Ireland*, ceasing after the Year 1724; and *England* from that Time to 1728, having considerably less from *Ireland*, than in the four preceeding Years, the Commodity began to advance a little at Home, to the no small Discontent of many Dealers, who thenceforward^a project^a 1728. the having it in greater Plenty from *Ireland*; and, with that View, to get the Duty taken off from WOOL, *there*, and from *Irish Yarn*, in both King-^a doms^a.

21. It had been universally acknowledged, in the Time of *Car. II.* that^a Chap. 125. an Increase of Wool in *Ireland*, had hurt the *English Grower*, and through^a §. 3, 4. him, the whole Kingdom^a. But in Process of Time, that Argument^a Chap. 126. was changed. One Writer^a indeed was frank enough, to confess, a total^a §. 13. Subtraction of *Irish Wool* from *England*, would make its own a better^a Chap. 59. Commodity; but at the same Time insinuated how *unreasonably impudent* it would be in those landed Gentry, (whom contemptuously enough he stiled *Shepherds* *) of *England*, to entertain a Thought so very selfish.^a §. 3. Chap. 124. §. 5.

TIONS, &c. e said of THIS ACT "It is certain that it has done a World of Harm to some of the e See "Manufactures of ENGLAND, and particularly to the CITY OF NORWICH; for whose Chap. 102. "Benefit it was chiefly intended—The very People of that City are now sensible of it them- §. 17. Note. "selves; and one of the chief Promoters confessed before he died, that he found it one of the "worst that ever passed—The REASONS our Author gives, are in themselves TOO FRIVO- LOUS to be worth repeating—Nevertheless see §. 44. Note; also Chap. 130. Note.

* As if the most brilliant Appearances in the Kingdom, and innumerable polite, gainful Trades, thereon depending, had not a Part of their Support by RENTS paid from those LANDS on which the SHEEP of ENGLAND—particularly are depastured, though affording WOOL to an IMMENSE VALUE.

22. How-

22. However, *such a cavalier Way of treating that Point*, being not most likely to take, it was thought wiser (we can't say more honest) to argue after a different Manner; by adopting a Position, some Time a before laid down, *viz.* that "the seeming *Excess of Wool* in England was "not at any Time, because we had too much from Ireland; "but because WE had not ALL." This was not otherwise to be made out, but by the old stale System, of one * *Third, Irish, or English*, being necessary to the working up of ALL FOREIGN * WOOL — So that every Stone of *Irish Wool* sent abroad, was an Accessory to the manufacturing of *two Stones more* — Consequently, every *Pack of Wool* brought from *Ireland* to *England*, instead of being sent elsewhere, was gaining a certain Vent in Manufacture, for THREE PACKS. And therefore, confessing ^f, that, *prima facie*, THEIR SCHEME was against the *English Grower* and *Spinner* both, either of which they knew to be *hard of Digestion*, they had nothing for it, but to affirm roundly what made so much for their Purpose, howsoever *hard of Belief* — Accordingly, in the Manner we have mentioned, they undertook to prove that every Interest would find its Account in *Irish Wool*, and in *Yarn* also, even to that of *English * Spinning*; which, it stood with their Purpose at that Time to say, was not only the dearest earned Money of any, but an inconsiderable Part of *Woolen Manufacture* — *Although, upon another Occasion, it had been asserted* ^h, that the *Clothiers* knew it to be above half. And certainly it is one considerable Advantage from *Woolen Manufacture*, as an † *Employment and Maintenance for otherwise helpless Women and Children*.

* *Viz.* Into ENGLISH LIKE GOODS, a technical Phrase, borrowed from the FRENCH, and now FIRST made use of to cajole the People of ENGLAND into a Belief, because the FRENCH made some Goods which they called FACON DE ANGLETERRE, that THEREFORE, they must needs be, either ALL, or IN PART, of ENGLISH, or IRISH WOOL: Whereas, although there are such Goods, so made, in FRANCE, yet are many more there made, of the same Denomination and Kind, without any ENGLISH, or IRISH WOOL, and those also for foreign Markets, *viz.* both for the SPANISH, and LEVANT Trade, ITALY, &c. (See Ch. 151. §. 11. Ch. 157. §. 10. Ch. 158. §. 3-5-9. Ch. 164. §. 7. 9. Ch. 165. §. 1. Chap. 167 §. 9. Chap. 170. §. 7.)

† A Pack of short Wool made into Cloth, is computed to employ 63 Persons a Week; whereof are 35 Women and Girls to card and spin it, besides 8 Men, to sort, dry, &c. scribble and stock card it, ready for their Hands. *viz.* FORTY THREE Persons of the 63 — In the same Quantity of long Wool made into STUFFS, the Combers and Spinners share is £21 10 0, in £43 10 6; and in Stockins £20 17 0 out of £56 (see *Chambers's Dict.* *Woolen Manufactory*) BUT AS EVERY THING IS EVIDENT, WHICH WRITERS OF THIS KIND SEE NECESSARY TO ADVANCE: SO NOTHING IS CONSIDERABLE, THAT HAPPENS TO STAND IN THEIR WAY.

23. *The Duty*, was taken off from *Wool*, ^b in *Ireland*. But *those*, on ^a 1730.
YARN, remaining, 'twas thought convenient to affirm, that *France* not ^b Chap. 126.
 getting the former, as usual, admitted the latter to be imported; which ^c §. 12.
 before, she *would not* ^c receive *.

^c §. 13:

24. So many were Complaints at this Time, of *Runnage*, and its Con-
 sequences, that *the Lords* addressed his Majesty, "to direct *the Commis-*
sioners of Trade, &c. to receive all such Proposals, as should be laid be-
 fore them, for preventing that pernicious Practice." *The Commissioners*, &c.
 after repeated Notices in the *Gazette* and other public Papers, reported
 (1731-2 ^d) several Proposals, they had received, as well from *Ireland*, as ^d Chap. 127.
England; most whereof concurred in preferring some *Scheme of Registry*;
 such as should keep sight of all *Wool*, in both Kingdoms, from its being
 shorn, &c. till it was completely manufactured: but signifying, that *THIS*,
 in their Opinion, would be a very expensive Measure at least, if not,
 thro' Multiplicity of Accounts, *impracticable*. *THEY*, THEREFORE, recom-
 mended Register Ships, for bringing *Wool*, &c. from *Ireland*; and the ra-
 ther, because they were credibly informed, they said, that several *British*
Merchants had given much Encouragement to the *contraband Trade* of
Ireland, by being deeply concerned therein, on their own Accounts. *THEY*
 gave it also further, as their Opinion, that in case an effectual Stop could
 be put to the illicit Trade of *Ireland*, in *Wool*, it would be highly proper,
 not only to admit their *YARN*, *Duty free*, as well as *Wool*, but to open
 ALL PORTS, both of *Ireland*, and *England*, for that Purpose.

25. *The Commissioners of Trade*, &c. ^e reported also about this same Time, ^e Chap. 127.
 a State of *Silk*, *Linen*, and *WOOLEN MANUFACTURIES* in the *British* ^f §. 23, 24.
 Colonies, and foreign *Plantations*; not very favourable to the *WOOLEN*
MANUFACTURIES in particular, of *their Mother Country* †.

26. What

* As the *FRENCH* themselves are too wise, to prohibit exporting of *YARN*; and the
DUTCH in Time of Peace buy up large Quantities every Year in *PICARDY* ^f: So 'tis less ^f Chap. 94.
 probable, *THEY* should at one Time refuse absolutely, at another, court earnestly that Com- ^g §. 16. Note.
 modity, for its own Sake merely: Although, it is very easy to be imagined, that for the Ad-
 vantage of employing their poor in spinning, they should prefer *Wool* to *YARN*; and not
 unlikely that, rather than forego their beneficial Trade with *Ireland*, for *SILKS*, *BRANDY*,
 and *BAD WINES*, they would be willing to take *the latter*, when, or so far as, they could not
 have *Wool*, *RAW*.

† In which REPORT there is something that merits Notice from those who have any Re-
 gard for *THE ENGLISH WOOL GROWER*; who must not export *HIS WOOL*, nor with
 the Exportation of it, because it is a Commodity PECULIAR to *ENGLAND* and *IRELAND*
 (for that hath been the Plea) of which a like monopolish Advantage is to be made by the *ENG-*
 Vol. II. A a a LISH

26. What *the Lords Commissioners, &c.* had mentioned, of several *British Merchants* going privately into the WOOLEN TRADE OF IRELAND, was ^e soon after verified, by a public ^h Attempt in *one*, to demonstrate that the *Rents and Labour of England* being TOO HIGH *, 'twas necessary to lower BOTH, by consigning to *Ireland* a Share at least of the *British Traffic* in WOOLENS; urging for it those same false Reasons that had before been given for importing, *without Duty*, WOOL, and YARN, of that Kingdom; namely, that the *French* particularly could not make *Cloth for Exportation* ⁱ, without one Third of one or the other, *Irish*, or *English* — So that, in order to deprive THEM — By permitting the *Irish* to work up all *their own*, ONE THIRD ONLY, of that Advantage, COULD accrue to *Ireland*: The OTHER TWO PARTS would be *so much* clear Gain to *England*; and an *entire Ruin* of ALL THE CLOTH MANUFACTURIES IN FRANCE.

^e 1735.

^h Chap. 129.

§. 3. 4.

ⁱ Chap. 129.

§. 5.

^k Chap. 131.

§. 9.

Chap. 132.

§. 2.

^l Chap. 127.

§. 31.

^m Chap. 85.

§. 7.

ⁿ Chap. 114.

§. 20. Note.

^o Ch. 98.

§. 1.

LISH, as the DUTCH make of their Spices ^k. And yet we find here, not only BRITISH, but OTHER foreign Colonies, in AMERICA, produce WOOL; and we are further told, that one certain BRITISH ^l COLONY in AMERICA, could not pay for the WOOLEN MANUFACTURE imported to them from GREAT BRITAIN, if THEY did not take WOOL from those FOREIGN COLONIES, in return for Provisions. AND SO MUCH IS INTELLIGIBLE — BUT CONSIDERING THAT BRITISH COLONIES ARE PROHIBITED BY Statute (10 and 11 W. III. Ch. 10. ^m) TO EXPORT, EITHER WOOL, or WOOLEN MANUFACTURE, *being of the PRODUCT or MANUFACTURE of any BRITISH PLANTATIONS*, IT IS NOT EASY TO RECONCILE THE TRADE of that single BRITISH COLONY, AS THERE SPECIFIED, IN THE WOOL OF FOREIGN COLONIES, WITH A STRICT OBSERVANCE OF THE Statute MENTIONED, TOUCHING THEIR OWN WOOL.

* As if the PRICE, of LAND, and LABOUR, was any where, unnatural and arbitrary; not subject to a common Market ⁿ, and governed by the general Circumstances and Commerce of every Country: Or, as if there was some real NATIONAL INTEREST, distinct from that of the MAIN BODY of a Community, LAND-HOLDERS, and LABOURERS: Or, as if that could be for THEIR INTEREST, which is not to THEIR BENEFIT: Or, that THEIR BENEFIT consisted in somewhat different from their PROFIT, *viz.* the PRICE of *th*ir LAND and LABOUR. But thus, nothing is too much; no Gain sufficient to satisfy the Luxury or Avarice of certain particular WHOLESAL DEALERS, JOBB-MONGERS (if we may use the Expression) we say, THEIR Luxury or Avarice; for whose Advantage does this Kind of Language and Argument consult, besides THEIR OWN DEAR SELVES? Commerce, say THEY, is beneficial; to Merchants immediately; ultimately, to Landholders and Labourers. And they say true, of a proper Commerce, rightly conducted. But then, must not THAT BENEFIT consist, IF AT ALL, in the SAME, or MORE, not LESS RENT, and LESS WAGES? THE PLAIN ENGLISH, THEREFORE, OF THIS PROJECTING MERCHANT; WAS, PROVIDED HE MIGHT BE ALLOWED TO DISPENSE WITH THE LAWS, AND INTEREST OF HIS COUNTRY, HE KNEW HOW TO GET AN ESTATE FOR HIMSELF. ATTEMPTS, LIKE THIS, HAVE GIVEN RISE to almost a Proverb. *viz.* THE MERCHANT MAY HAVE A DISTINCT ^o INTEREST FROM THAT OF HIS COUNTRY. (See more §. 27. &c. REMARK.)

REMARK.

27. *We desire to observe here, by Way of Supplement to the last foregoing Note, not only our above Merchant, but several others (Mr. Postlethwait for ° one) esteeming Land, Labour and Provisions, TOO DEAR in England, make that the Cause of a bad Trade, which we rather think to indicate a good one; have certainly on our Side, past Experience of like Symptoms, with the very same Complaints, and seemingly at least, the Nature of Things. For Example, upon the Discovery and Conquest of Mexico, (by which, Gold and Silver becoming more plentiful, the Trade of Europe was increased,) the Price of Land, Labour and Provisions, in England, did advance. And this Change was a constant Theme of Complaint, from Henry VIII. to the Beginning of James I.—The Cause being then, less conceived and considered, than since, in more enlightened Times, one should expect it might be, and indeed hath been: Witness, the following Quotation from Bishop Spratt's History of the Royal Society: By Mr. Postlethwait himself, viz. "The HIGH RATE OF " THINGS is an Argument of the flourishing; and the CHEAPNESS, of " the Scarcity of Money, and ill-peopling of all ° Countries."*

° Dict.
Vol. II.
p. 139, &c.

° See Fleet-
wood's Chron.
pret: p. 94.
Chap. 15.
§. 4.
Ch. 20. §. 6.
Chap. 23.
Ch. 27. §. 7.

° Chap. 184.

28. *THIS, Mr. Postlethwait admits to be generally true in a Degree, and that it was particularly the Case of England, some Time since; but insists, 'tis not so now; BECAUSE Rates for Labour are (he says) "always governed by the Prices of Victuals and Drink—Prices of Victuals and Drink, by the high or low Rent of Land; and these two latter, by the Number of Farms and their Contents, in Proportion to the whole Number of Consumers—But (adds he) a Demand for Farms in a greater Proportion than they were well to be had, hath not only enbansed Rents, and, in course, Victuals and Labour; but hence it hath come to pass, that an over Proportion of People have betook themselves to Trade, Manufactures, &c. instead of Agriculture; which, if not remedied, by cultivating, more than hitherto, waste Lands, so as to increase sufficiently, both the Farms, and Produce, MULTITUDES MUST BE RUINED."*

§. 1.

29. *Here let us observe, FIRST, this Position of Mr. Postlethwait's is not of a Piece with two others of his own, elsewhere; viz. "I. We have "not Mouths at Home to consume our Produce." "II. In how "superior a Port or Figure, as we say, do OUR TRADESMEN live, to*

° Dict.
Vol. II.
p. 285.

A a a 2

what

See
Chap. 184.
§. 29.

" what the MIDDLE GENTRY * either do or CAN support?" But 2dly. Such hath been the almost constant Language of English Writers on these Subjects, ever since Printing came into common Use, that were they to be wholly credited, we must conclude Things to have been so continually going on from bad to worse, that the Wealth and Strength of OUR NATION would have been, long before this, utterly exhausted and reduced to nothing: whereas they have for the most part been in a growing State. However, to proceed with Mr. Postlethwait.

30 HE thinks our annual Improvements in Agriculture, not equal to our annual Increase of People; which he rates at $\frac{1}{360}$. Therefore, says he, an Increase of Produce ought to be in such Proportion; and consequently, at the End of 360 Years, two fold, or the Double of what it was, before that Term; which he imagines it is not;—and why?—BECAUSE eighty six square Miles of waste Lands in England ARE NOT inclosed and new cultivated one Year with another: SO MUCH being, for that End, the due annual Proportion, in his Opinion.

31. Now, without pursuing Mr. Postlethwait thro' all his Conceptions under this Head: If there is room to imagine, either the Fruits of this Kingdom to have been annually increasing after the Rate of $\frac{1}{360}$, or that they are now twice as much ordinarily as they were 360 Years ago: OR, that the Deficiency, if any, is amply made up, another Way: In such Case, we think it must be granted upon his own Principles, that a plentiful Sustenance for the People is thus far fully obtained, although not altogether by those same Means (of cultivating eighty six square Miles, new Land, yearly) which he hath thought so essential.

32. And we are very much of Opinion, no Person conversant in, and considerate of these Matters, will disbelieve, that by cultivating more Lands, and by greatly improving those before in Culture, an Increase of Produce, equal to what Mr. Postlethwait accounts necessary from his supposed Increase of People, hath been fully attained hitherto; nor is it impossible, or in the least improbable, but that such Improvements will continue to keep pace with such Occasions for them, on an Average, i. e. one Year with another.

33. To be convinced of this, we need but to consider, how natural it is for all Persons to prosecute their own Advantage, and to be constantly aiming at

† Dict.
Vol. II.
p. 262.

* Than whom, " a London Shoemaker (he says) shall keep a better House, spend more Money, &c. and yet grow rich too."

still

still more and more; how easy, with Management, to make almost any Farm somewhat better by Time, and how common it is for the Produce of vast Tracts of Land to be increased in a far greater Measure than that small Degree of $\frac{1}{100}$ in the Circle of a Year.

34. Moreover, have not ~~we~~ Colonies abroad, and foreign Plantations? Are not both replenished in a Degree, with People from their Mother Country? And are they not, the former especially, so many additional Farms? Were they not originally intended to be such? Or could they otherwise be of so much Use and Service as they are? Do they not jointly contribute to supply that Demand, Mr. Postlethwait expects from those WASTE LANDS altogether, which he imagines we have at Home; but, in fact, we think there are not; nor any Thing like, either the Quantity, or Proportion, mentioned by him; unless he confounds (besides Lands absolutely barren, therefore not to be accounted of) open Fields, and common Pastures, under that Denomination; which last two, though capable of Improvement by Inclosure, are far from being literally, waste Lands.

35. Upon the whole, therefore, we are verily persuaded, Provisions are not dear in England, for the Reasons assigned by Mr. Postlethwait; and that the present usual Price of them hath, neither that Cause, nor those Effects, he speaks of. (§. 27, 28.)

36. Every Produce of a Kingdom will have its Ups and Downs, from its greater, and lesser Plenty, through a constant Vicissitude of Things, which, like the Moon, are ever upon the Increase, or Wane, periodically. And, besides, that the different Value of Money gives a different Price to other Commodities, an actual Dearth of necessary Provisions, not to be prevented by human Wisdom, will sometimes happen, from very unfavourable Seasons. A calamitous Cheapness is also possible, without regard to Seasons (as was in the Reign of Car. II.) from the bad State of national Commerce. But apparent Plenty of Produce, for Continuance of Time, with a ready Vent at competent Prices, as hath commonly been the State of England, since the Revolution (except for WOOL, by Reason of its being monopolized) is an infallible Token of a thriving Commerce, in the main; that the People are employed, and that Money doth circulate. THESE are Circumstances, which making Money more plentiful and cheap, have raised nominally, and but nominally, Rents of Land; and which have promoted, and will promote Agriculture—And, we add, a more fair and equal Com-

Commerce for Wool would be a still stronger Incitement to the reducing of Lands into Severalty, and a State of Improvement, more and more.

37. We think then, Mr. Postlethwait mistakes Things entirely, in supposing Rent of Lands, as a first Cause, to govern the Price of Provisions, &c. On the contrary, Land is the Root and Foundation of Trade; which adds to the Value of Labour—That, to Provisions—and they again, to Land; where the Advantage does not stop, but continues to spread and circulate in the very best Manner.

38. As to the Article of Rent, SOME LANDS being occupied by Owners themselves, THOSE are neither high, nor low: OTHERS are farmed out variously, not only in different Pennyworths, by different Landlords, but by the same Landlords, to different Tenants, who ALL, sell their Produce, without Distinction, at one and the same Market Price.

39. MANY PRINCIPAL OWNERS, laudably enough intend the Occupants, in mere Kindness to them, as their Vassals or Dependants, a beneficial Tenure: And THOSE are sought unto and courted — But when it comes to bartering and bargaining, between the Landowner and Farmer; then is it Matter of Skill and Discretion on both Sides; by which the Public is not, cannot be affected. But if one is over-reached, he alone will principally suffer, and the other only be the chief Gainer by it. The Produce of such Farm will be neither more nor less, cheaper nor dearer.

Chap. 44.
§. 4, 5.

40. Mr. Postlethwait mistakes further, about Inclosures, in imagining either Farms are thereby multiplied, or a greater Number of Hands employed in managing those same Lands: On the contrary, as they are calculated to produce more Fruits, with less Labour: So consequently, it hath been accounted of, as one public Benefit resulting from Inclosures, that the Hands thereby spared from Agriculture, were convertible with more Advantage, to TRADE, MANUFACTURE, NAVIGATION, FISHERY, &c. And if so it were, that an over Proportion of the People had been, and now actually are, employed in those several Vocations, as according to Mr. Postlethwait, thence would have followed, low Wages in Proportion, for all Labour and common Service whatsoever (the Reverse of which hath been long a Complaint) and those low Wages, operating in the same Manner as a Scarcity of * Money, would either

* Much more, if operating together with a SCARCITY OF MONEY among the People, which he asserts to be the Case, more than heretofore; because THAT ALONE, upon his own Principles, too

either have lowered the Price of common necessary Provisions (which is contrary to what Mr. Postlethwait hath supposed) or else the Dearness of them, he complains of, must be resolved into an actual Want, i. e. a real Scarcity of such Provisions; which Supposition is so contrary to Fact, that making due Exceptions, as before observed, for inclement Seasons, there hath been nothing like it, in England, for a considerable Number of Years; and this the far greater Plenty, consequently, lower the Price, upon an Average, of Wheat particularly, in latter, than former * Times, notwithstanding the different Value of Money, will abundantly testify, against all such modern Growlers.

40. DEAR LABOUR, therefore, comparatively speaking, and what Mr. Postlethwait calls an high Price for Provisions, without either Want, or Scarcity of such Provisions (which neither is, nor can be pretended ordinarily) prove just the contrary of what he asserts — Nor are the Articles of Taxes, and Duties, in this Respect, what he * and others represent them; since THOSE * Chap. 184. lie not, as in some Countries they do, upon the real and principal necessary Provisions, such as proceed from our Lands: They lie not, for Instance, upon Bread, Flesh, Fowls, Eggs, Milk, Butter, Cheese — As therefore, no Country in Europe, of the same Extent, produces more of these, or better, than England does: So, if they, as perhaps they do (Bread excepted) sell at a higher Rate here, than in some other Places, 'tis only an Argument of ENGLAND having MORE Money and People, in consequence of a BETTER TRADE, than some other Countries have; even as, for the same Reason, Provisions are commonly dearer in the great Metropolis, than in less populous, extreme Parts of this Kingdom.

42. In vain, therefore, methinks, does Mr. Postlethwait go about to possess the Public with a Belief, that it would be better for LANDOWNERS THEMSELVES, their Families, and the Nation, if every HUNDRED POUNDS Rent

too, must have reduced in Proportion, not only the Price of Labour, but of Provisions also, unless there was a real Want of the latter.

* N. B. We mean not here, to compare with those Times of BISHOP FLEETWOOD'S CHRONICON PRETIOSUM, wherein is given the Price of Things for 600 Years; when tho' Money was dear, i. e. scarce, and other Things cheap in Proportion; yet not unfrequently, through a Bad State of Tillage, was a great Dearth of WHEAT, comparatively, and particularly, towards the End of the sixteenth Century, even to £5. per Quarter. — But the true Medium Price, for 60 Years, from 1646 to 1705 inclusive, having been per QUARTER £2. 9s. 10d. $\frac{1}{2}$: every one must be sensible, THAT exceeds vastly the medium Price for 20 or 30 Years last past; and of its being a clear Proof, against Mr. POSTLETHWAIT, that there hath not been lately, neither is at present, the WANT OF AGRICULTURE, which he complains of.

of

of THEIRS, was reduced to SEVENTY—And far better, than if the same should by any Means advance to ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY—Although, true it is, there was a Time, and that, not many Ages since, when a less Rent than seventy Pounds, served all Occasions of a FAMILY, full as well, comparatively, as ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY POUNDS will do now. But 'tis not to be expected again, much less desired; considering what has brought about this Difference; namely, an Increase of Money, by Increase of Trade; which having, besides the Introduction of foreign Luxury, raised the Price of several Things produced at Home, and particularly, of Labour, 'tis the very Reason why so much MORE RENT, by Tale, is now necessary to maintain LANDOWNERS in their respective Ranks, than HERETOFORE.

43. And thus Things will, nay must, continue (for nothing else can produce the Effect) till a Declension of Trade, and a Decrease of People, and Treasure, brings us back to our pristine Poverty—A Revolution, which, we are persuaded, Mr. Postlethwait will not contend for—Who says, there is a proper Point, at which, provided a due Quantity is cultured, Rent of Land will stop of itself. And we believe it, not only quite passive to other Circumstances, but that the Culture of Lands, in a reasonable Sense, is not neglected, although no exact Quantum is, or can be prescribed, or any Bounds set to the Rent of it.

44. BUT, as a progressive, improved Husbandry, in order to a growing Increase of Produce, is always desirable: So 'tis only to be expected, in Consequence of a Demand for Farms; which must proceed from a due Encouragement to Expence and Labour, by a ready Utterance of the Fruits, with reasonable Profit—Which Utterance will depend upon the State of Commerce; consequently, will govern the Rents of Land, and Price of Labour: Not Rents of Land, THEM, or EITHER of them; FOR THAT IS PUTTING THE CART, TO GO BEFORE THE HORSE. And the same it is, to expect, that GENTLEMEN will be at great Cost, to improve their Lands, with other Views, or upon other Motives, than to increase their RENTAL, in Proportion at least.—From this long but necessary Digression in Justice to the LANDED INTEREST, let us now return to, where we went off from our History.

1736.

Ch. 130.
Note.

45. The next public Injury to Sheep Lands, was that, called the Manchester Act; which gave a Sanction to the using, and wearing of any Stuff of Linen Yarn and Cotton Wool (the Warp being entirely Linen, manufactured, printed or painted within the Kingdom—Whereby, so far as concerns the

the Interest of WOOL GROWERS, was, and is superseded, the Intention, both of *the Calicoe Act* (1719) and of that against *East India Manufactures*, twenty Years before; printed or painted Linens, or mixed with Cotton, being altogether as much in Use for Apparel and Furniture (if not more) as either of the other were, when judged so very prejudicial to our Home Consumption, and foreign Trade for *fine Woollen Stuffs* *. There is, it's true, this great Difference, in their Favour, that they are *Home Manufacture*; and so far a beneficial Employment †—But, considering how large a Share of that Money, which pays for these Linen and Cotton Manufactures, arises from THE RENTS of *England*, and THOSE RENTS, in a very great Measure, from WOOL; which, as the Law is, must either be wrought up at Home, or *rot in the Grower's Hands*, there is a Solecism in this Kind of Policy—A Disregard of *the Landowner's Interest*, not to mention the Injustice of it: It is not (what *the Calicoe Act* was) for the *Preservation and Encouragement of WOOLEN MANUFACTURE* (§. 17.); nor consequently, as was intended by *Statute* ^a 1 W. M. c. 32. an Encouragement ^a Chap. 72. to THE GROWTH OF WOOL. ^{§. 3.} Chap. 192. ^{§. 1.}

45. The above Discouragements were more unseasonable, because WOOL was now ^b at the lowest Ebb—But though much disused at Home for Apparel, and very little worth, to be sold by the Farmer; yet had it still the Appellation of *The Golden Fleece* ^c—of being to *England* an inexhaustible Mine of Wealth, provided it could be kept, till wrought up, and the *Wool, Worsted and Yarn* also of *Ireland* secured—These (*English and Irish*) being a peculiar Commodity, of which ALL OTHER NATIONS stand in need; insomuch that *Britons* might engross the WHOLE WOOLEN ^b Chap. 171. No. 5. ^c Chap. 131.

* Not only so; but there is so much likeness between EAST INDIA CALICOES or CHINTS, and some PRINTED OR PAINTED ENGLISH COTTONS AND LINENS, that the former are not a little worn, in contravention, both to THE CALICOE ACT, and also to the STATUTE. II 12, W. III. c. 10.

† Here note therefore: It is not the HOME MAKING of Linen and Cotton Stuffs, which we absolutely condemn; since, besides a manifest Propensity in the People, towards wearing or using any Thing rather than WOOLENS, so far as the same can be avoided, probably some other Considerations render this Manufacture a fit Object of Encouragement—But this we say, that by Inclination, and the Necessity of Things, being equally intent upon increasing the Growth of Wool, as we are averse ^d to wear and use it, the absolute Prohibition on that Material, before, an ill-judged Measure, is HEREBY rendered LESS consistent with public Justice and Wisdom—Certainly, in consequence of THIS ACT, several Species of Manufacture from WOOL being much disused at Home, 'tis not only CHEAPER, and so far an Hardship upon the Grower; but THAT CHEAPNESS is, what makes it more liable to be EXPORTED RAW; which the *English Policy* in general INTENDS by all means to prevent. ^d Chap. 191. §. 61. Note.

TRADE TO THEMSELVES, without a Possibility of being rivalled, and (like the *Hollanders* in their Spice^e Trade) upon what Terms they please—THIS (it is to be understood) was affirmed; and proposed to be effected by a Registry of all Wool in Great Britain, and in Ireland; with staple^t Towns in the latter, for Wool and Yarn to be lodged in, under safe Custody, till brought to England in twenty four register Sloops of different Burdens —The Expence thereof defrayed by a Tax equal to one Penny per Pound, of all Wool in Great Britain*.

46. Dealers in Wool, and Woolens, ever dissatisfied, complained^e of the sinking State^h of the Woollen Exportation Trade: Appealing for Proof, to the low Price of Wool, and putting an Effect for the Cause, they attributed the Whole to its Runnage from England and Ireland; therefore modestly prayed to be one incorporated Company, with a Power of executing all Laws in being, against Transportation of Wool—Of registering all Wools in both Kingdoms—Of making BY-LAWS—Of RAISING MONEY FOR ALL THEIR PURPOSES—Of being exempt from Postage—Of COMMANDING the civil Magistrate upon Occasion—And that the Duties on Irish Woollen Yarn might be taken off.

47. Not content with the single Advantage of having Wool at a very low Price, CLOTHIERS^k had lowered by Consent, the Wages of their Under-workmen; and besides, were said to bear hard upon them in some other Regards. And this was insinuated^l to have been the Cause of some Riots, &c. one particularly in Wiltshire. The Charge was in Part^m denied; but in some Instances confessed and vindicated, or excused; and besides insisting upon a then supposed extraordinary Want of Vent abroad for Woolens, the Blame, acknowledged to be due, was charged upon the Tyranny of BLACKWELLⁿ & HALL FACTORS.

48. After a great Run of Complaints, in regard to Trade in general, foreign particularly, and above all, concerning that essential Part of it, the Exportation of Woolens, 'twas thought proper^o, by some Person of Intelligence, well affected towards the Government and Ministry, to represent, what late Improvements had been in the Trade, Navigation, and Manufactures of the Kingdom; and, for that of WOOLEN MANUFACTURE and

* An extraordinary Scheme of Kindness this to LAND-OWNERS! 1st, to lower the Price of their Produce, by introducing certainly a Glut of IRISH WOOL and YARN. 2dly, to make them, and THEM ONLY, pay the Expence attending it (see the next, §. 46.)

ITS FOREIGN TRADE, to urge, that THOUGH THE NATION GREW THEN ONE THIRD, A MORE WOOL, THAN TWENTY YEARS BEFORE, ^{§. 7.} YET WAS THERE NO QUANTITY OF IT LYING ON HAND, FROM ONE YEAR TO THE NEXT. Which last, though it was a KNOWN TRUTH, *worthy of Remark*, (see §. 83. Note.) yet was this Representation esteemed at that Time, but a Piece of *State Flattery*, or rather, *ministerial Puff*. For the People having been easily taught to think *the Price of English Wool in England depended altogether upon its Exportation Trade for Woollen Goods*: As they were by woeful Experience sensible how low the former then *was*, and for Years *had been*: So they wanted no other Evidence, or Arguments to persuade them, that all which Manufacturers or Merchants alledged, touching a pretended *Deadness of Trade* in this Period, was true. And yet (it so came out near seven Years after, by *Custom-House Accounts exhibited to Parliament*) what the *ministerial Writer* said, was, at least, so far certain, that the *English Woollen Exports* had at the very Instant, of this Clamour, and THEN VERY LOW PRICE FOR WOOL, exceeded what EVER had been known in ANY ONE YEAR BEFORE.

49. A Tradition in this Kingdom, was very ancient, though a foolish one, that the *Sheep of Spain* were originally from *Coteshwold*. And it was also assumed in Time, that none but *English Wools* would make CLOTH, alone: That those of *Spain*, although from the *English Breed of Sheep*, and better'd under that Climate, yet by themselves were unfit for Manufacture; nor would they mix with any other than *English Wools*; and that too on Account of their original Affinity—But as this Notion did not answer every Purpose of *Monopoly*: So it was after some Time improved upon by affirming, STUFF^u, as well as CLOTH, could not be made, without a Mixture of *English Wool*, or *Irish*; which also was from *Sheep originally English*. And notwithstanding that ever anon, some Writer, better informed, or more ingenuous than the rest, alike ridiculed those Notions, and declared openly for *reducing*, by all possible Means, the PRICE OF WOOL in *England*; yet the Generality continued to build upon supposed marvellous Properties in that Commodity, *English*, and *Irish*, for every Kind of Drapery; till now, in the Year 1739, a Person, without any other Name than that of a *Woollen Manufacturer, of Northamptonshire*, writing what he called *Observations on British Wool, &c. with Remarks on the Wool and Woollen Manufacturers of FRANCE, FLANDERS, and HOLLAND*, after

* Chap. 139.

§. 13. Note.

Chap. 171.

No. 5. 1738.

* Chap. 12.

§. 15. Note.

Chap. 150.

§. 4.

* Chap. 41.

§. 4.

* Chap. 51.

§. 3.

* Chap. 140.

informing the Public, that it was a vulgar Error, to conceive ENGLISH WOOLS peculiar for making of CLOTH, undertook to relate, from his own Knowledge, and what (he said) he had been an Eye-Witness of, the singular Qualities of English and Irish combing Wool; which, according to his Representation, supported by a Mixture of them, more or less, ALL the Manufacturies employed on combed Wool, in Hamburgh, Holland, Flanders, France, and some Part of Germany—That, for Example, at Abbeville^y, there were not fewer than a THOUSAND LOOMS employed in making Paragons, besides many others in Druggets, Serge, Cloth-Serge, Serge-Royal, Shalloons, and STUFFS in Imitation of Norwich—Some mixed—others ALL ENGLISH OR IRISH WOOL; there being about THREE HUNDRED WOOL^a COMBERS in that Place; the like at Nantes and Amiens—Also another Factory of the same Kind, and with the same Materials, at Montidre in Picardy—At St. Omers, THREE HUNDRED and FIFTY^a LOOMS, for CLOTH, besides a large Number of Stockin Frames—The Hosiery, some, of ALL ENGLISH WOOL, some, mixed with about Half their own—At Lisle^b, a great Manufactory of broad, and narrow Cloths—near a THOUSAND LOOMS making Camlets; ALL, of English, or Irish Wool—A much greater Number, in the same Goods, with mixed Wool—Also a GREAT MANY HUNDRED LOOMS employed in making Calimancoes, and several Sorts of WORSTED STUFFS—At^c Turcoin, many thousand Hands employed in combing, and spinning Wool, Irish, or English—FOURTEEN Persons there, making Wool Combs—At^d Roubaix, and in the whole Country, the People (like as in the West of England) were fully employed in making fine Calimancoes, Camlets, &c, the finest, ALL, of English, or Irish Wool; and a very great Number, with a Mixture of them—At Bridges^e, a great Manufactory of broad Says—At^f Liege, several STUFFS, but principally Says, and Shalloons—At Antwerp, Hosiery, and STUFFS—And all those, Part, of English, Part, other Wool.

50. And in Fact, there are in these (besides innumerable other) Places, the many and great Woolen Manufacturies, making the same Kinds of Goods which he has mentioned; as may be proved by the Testimony of far more credible Evidences.

51. How far 'tis true, which he hath said, of the Quantities of English and Irish Wool, there consumed, is one Question; and another is, whether the same are actually necessary, as according to him, for mixing, in some, and

and for working alone, in other Species of Goods? Which, however they are answered, can make nothing, by his Account, for the Policy of *prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool*; since, *first*, if they are necessary, the *Prohibition* hath plainly availed so little, towards Prevention.

52. And secondly, taking his Account of these several Manufacturies in another Light; namely, that there are all those Goods made, he speaks of (which is true) and though no Wool, *English* or *Irish*, could be had there, yet much of the same Goods would continue to be made in those very Places (which is highly probable *) in that View, there is not the Occasion alledged by him and others, for an *absolute Prohibition*; although it being certain enough, that both *English* and *Irish Wools* are a Commodity or Article of Traffic, in these and other foreign Markets, the same is a Reason for casting about, and trying some other Expedient (if such there is, and such we hope to shew ^h) that shall promise to be equally at least effective of the End wanted, without being altogether so injurious to the Wool-Growing Interest of *Britain*, as not only common Sense tells us, a *Monopoly* must be, but abundant Experience proves it hath been; notwithstanding that *this Northamptonshire Woolen Manufacturer* attempted to palm upon the Kingdom, for History, what, if authentic, might go very far towards inducing a Belief that *preventing the Exportation of Wool*, is, in itself, a Means to raise the Price of it at Home. viz.

53. 'Twas now (1739) near twenty Years from the Plague at *Marseilles*; in Reference to which he undertook to inform the Public of what he termed a plain Matter of Fact; namely, the flourishing State of Trade

* Although we shall demonstrate (see §. 91-144) that RUNNAGE OF WOOL from ENGLAND and IRELAND, is not inconsiderable in itself, yet do we think it very much so, in Respect of the many large Manufacturies mentioned by this Writer; and vastly more, considering those almost innumerable, if not greater, in the southern Parts of FRANCE: an Account whereof is already given ⁱ; and where no ENGLISH WOOL, or IRISH, is suspected, or so much as pretended to be used or carried. And particularly, we cannot think that the FOURTEEN & WOOL COMB MAKERS at TURCOIN (which are said to be twelve more than in LONDON) would want Employment, if no WOOL escaped from ENGLAND, or IRELAND, to FLANDERS—Nevertheless, whenever the Wools of these Kingdoms, proper for the Manufactures of that and other neighbouring Countries, can be had at the same Price with others of like Quality, the Manufacturers of those Countries will be ready to purchase them; and so long as their Market Price is sufficiently above that of ENGLAND, and IRELAND, to afford a Temptation to Runnage, there will be found Persons disposed thereto for Profit; and also Ways and Means of conveying both ENGLISH and IRISH WOOL thither: For, to borrow the words of a very late Writer, who calls himself A MAN OF KENT (which is to say a Man of Experience too) “ Though the Smuggler of TO-DAY may be destroyed or taken, yet [the Practice] will never die, whilst the PROFITS and DEMAND subsist.”

and

^s Chap. 182.
§. 6.

^h Chap. 196.

ⁱ Chap. 151-166.

^k Chap. 140.
§. 13.

^l Chap. 197.
35—37.

and (which had been hitherto unobserved) the *Price of Wool* thereby occasioned, when (as supposed) all Demand for it, ceased; and ALL THE WOOL and YARN of *Ireland* was brought to *England*, because it could not be run abroad. — Then (says he) had *England* a Current Demand for all their Goods manufactured---and THEIR WOOL was ONE THIRD dearer than in 1739 (the Time of his Writing.) --- Whence he concluded that if *English Wool* could be effectually secured from going abroad, it must rise, as (he said) IT CERTAINLY DID, when stopt by the aforefaid Occurrence.

¹ Chap. 171.
No. 1, 2, 3, 4.

^m Chap. 126.
§. 19—21.
Chap. 174.

54. And so much was true; *Wool* did sell ONE THIRD, dearer at the Time of the Plague in *France*, than in 1739.---Yet was it not then, an advanced Price; but a fallen¹ Commodity from what it had been, two Years before; and probably, for one Reason, because (as he said) a greater Share than usual of *Irish Wool* and Yarn was brought to *England*^m.

55. The above Piece of History, though in the main utterly false, yet affording a short Argument that was not only new, but obvious to every Capacity, and convenient for all the Purposes of hungry Projectors, was greedily entertained, and greatly improved upon, by succeeding Writers, of that Stamp.

^a Chap. 141.
§ 1.

56. One of whom, Mr. *Webber* by Name, originally a *Trader in Woolens*, having nine^a Years before conceived a sufficient Gain to himself and Company, by a projected Patent or Charter for registering all the Wools of *Britain* and *Ireland*; and for that Purpose, presented to the King his Scheme (recommended by a large Number of Hands) which his Majesty referr'd to the *Attorney General*, who disapproved it; from which Time therefore having made Application to Members of Parliament, without Success; at last, by way of Appeal to the Public, he proceeded to publish his said Scheme, and therewith a Narrative or pretended History of the *State of the English Woolen Trade*, from the Peace of *Ryswick* (1697) to the Year of his Writing (1739); wherein he laid it down for

^o Chap. 141.
§. 10.

an invariable Truth, “ That the ° Price of *Wool* at Home was always “ highest when the least of it was exported unmanufactured;” and,

57. To support this Position, the main drift of his Narrative, one Point of Proof, above others, whereon he rested his Assertion, was this——

“ That the Plague putting a Stop to all Intercourse with *France*; while “ they could get no *English Wool*, the same rose in *England* from seven

“ to

"to TWELVE POUNDS, the Pack," — which last, we have shewn already, was the Reverse of Truth; — as were some other Parts of his History.

Chap. 171.
No. i, ii, iii, iv.
Chap. 174.

Whence nevertheless, he proceeded to demonstrate, from a Circumstance too true, namely the then Price of Wool (5 l. and 4 l. 10 s. per Pack) that there was not one Third of the Woolens exported, which formerly had been, and might be again, if his SCHEME, the most effectual for Prevention, ever before invented, should be suffered to take Place.

58. Before the End of the Year 1739, passed an Act for "taking off the Duties upon Woolen and Bay Yarn imported from Ireland to England; and for more effectually preventing the Exportation of Wool from Great Britain, and of Wool raw and manufactured, from Ireland, to foreign Parts, reciting that such Exportations, notwithstanding all former Laws, were NOTORIOUSLY CONTINUED."

Chap. 142.
P. S.

59. 'Twas said, for this Act, that, by increasing the Importations of Wool, and Yarn from Ireland, 'twould prevent the Exportation of THEIR Wool and Woolen Manufacture to foreign Parts. — But the former, for three or four Years immediately following, proved not to be the Case.

Chap. 171.

60. And against the Bill might have been objected, that, in case more Wool and Yarn should be imported from Ireland, Wool of Britain being thereby rendered cheaper, 'twould only be exported thence in larger Quantities, for that Reason. — But CHEAPNESS of Wool in Britain being the Point principally aim'd at by certain Persons; provided THAT was accomplished, THEY were fully satisfied, without regarding other Consequences.

No. 5.
Chap. 143.
No. i. §. 4.
No. viii. §. 4.

61. However, it was argued in Favour of the above Bill, and some Assurances were given that in Return for this Civility to Ireland, a Law would pass there, in a Session approaching, to prevent effectually the contraband Trade in Wool, and Woolen Manufacture, from that Kingdom.

62. 'Twas accordingly attempted — But the Event shewed that nothing less than a free foreign Trade, for THEIR Woolen Manufacture, would give content in Ireland. — And to make this go down, if possible, great were said to be the Reasons for it; since "it would be a means to destroy inevitably THE WHOLE WOOLEN TRADE OF FRANCE."

Chap. 143.
No. 1, 2, 3, 4.

63. Indeed, a strange Credulity of People in general having long prevailed

Chap. 143.
No. 4. §. 6.
§. 7. Note.

vailed on this Subject, the Ignorance, and Assurance of Writers about it, were remarkably conspicuous at *this Time* *.

^u 1740.
Ch. 145.

* § 1.

§ 8.

* § 10.

^a Ch. 146.
No. 1, 2, 3.

^b Ch. 114.

64. For Example, in ^u 1740, came forth *A Tract*, intituled, *The Consequences of Trade, &c.* By A DRAPER OF LONDON: importing * (for such he said, was the nature of *British* and *Irish Wool*) that neither *middling Cloths*, nor any Kind of *Manufacture* could be made without one, or the other, — And therefore by confining THEM, *Great Britain* might have the furnishing of ALL THE WORLD with every Species of good and useful *Drapery*. — That the FRENCH had, modestly, computing, FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND Packs from *Britain* and *Ireland* yearly; which was an annual Loss to *Britain* of TWENTY EIGHT MILLIONS *Sterling*; and TWICE ^z so MUCH Gain to the FRENCH — all which (he said) might be prevented; and THE FRENCH WOOLEN TRADE TOTALLY RUIN'D, by carrying into Execution Mr. *Webber's Scheme of a Registry in Charter*.

65. Many ^a Schemes besides were produced; from which the Authors presumed much; without affording a reasonable Prospect of performing any Part of what was wanted.

66. ONE PERSON, falling into the same Thought with Mr. *Cary of Bristol* ^b some Years before, rationally enough concluded that a Registry conducted by Officers of *Excise* †, might be effectual as any, for taking and keeping Accounts of *Wool grown and manufactured*. --- Moreover, adopting with Mr. *Webber*, and others, the *System* of Wonders to be performed abroad by a MIXTURE of *British* and *Irish Wools*, and representing with *The Draper of London*, immense Quantities yearly run from *Britain*

* This Subject not affording Matter for polite Knowledge, had never enjoyed the Benefits of *Criticism*, in any degree; but having been treated chiefly by Persons under the Bias of Interest and Prepossession on ONE SIDE, and those not well qualified in other Respects, as Authors — hence it came to pass, that like a fruitful field ill cultivated, it all along produced more WEEDS than CORN; but NOW, more than ever. — This indeed fixes no Blame on Individuals, as Scholars, or even upon any Class of lettered Men. 'Tis not a Fault, but a Misfortune, arising from the Nature of the Subject. And yet, if any there are, as we suspect, or rather know, who indulging themselves in more delicious Studies, or in PROFITABLE Pursuits, treat with Disdain, a disinterested Attempt to rescue his Country from Ignorance and Abuse herein; let it be considered, whether such are not at the best SUPERCILIOUS and PR-DANTIC.

^c Chap. 51.

§ 14. Note.

^d Chap. 182.

§. 1. 1701-2.

^e Ch. 182. § 1

^f Ch. 196.

§ 1. Note.

† Whether Mr. CARY in 1717, was the first who projected to conduct it by Excise-Officers, we cannot say. — But a Registry of all Wools grown in the Kingdom, appears to have been proposed to the Public in ^c 1671, and afterwards to PARLIAMENT ^d in 1701-2; when the Commons resolv'd that it was the most effectual Method. And we shall soon see a more recent Resolution of THAT HOUSE, to the same Effect, with further Proceedings thereon, though not to Execution; which shews again, as noted before ^e, the Trouble and Perplexities that have arisen out of a Measure originally misjudged for what was intended ^f by it.

and

and Ireland, HE laid down an Estimate of *actual Loss*, and *possible Benefit* to the Nation, not less than THIRTY TWO MILLIONS yearly—The *Loss* not to be prevented, nor the *Benefit* obtained otherwise than by a Registry conducted with the utmost Strictness, even as he proposed.

67. *And why?* Because the *French* (he said) *for mixing*, could afford TWELVE HUNDRED *per Cent.* Profit for *British* or *Irish Wool*, rather than want it—That with every single Pack *they* did get, THREE, or FOUR, of their own, was wrought up, to the making of that Glut abroad, which reduced so much as then was, *the Price of Wool in Britain*—Whereas (he added) “When Ships lay Quarentine” (meaning while the Plague was at *Marseilles*) “*Wool in England* advanced from *fifteen* to THIRTY “*Shillings per Tod.*”

68. Not contenting himself with this supposed Fact, for his only Proof (which indeed was most ^s false) he undertook, contrary to the Usage ^{Chap. 174.} of all other Writers who had more wisely delivered themselves in general Terms, to explain *how it came to pass*, that *English*, or *Irish*, was worth so much more a Pack (£. 78. as he affirmed) for *mixing with French Wool*. And this, unhappily for his System, he resolved, not into any *intrinsic Difference of the Wools*, but of the Price of Labour altogether, in one Kingdom, and the ^h other—And that too, without Authority. For Instance, ^{h Chap. 148. §. 24. 25.} after representing *English*, and *Irish*, vastly superior to *French Wools*; in order to bring his Calculations to bear in some small Degree, he not only made *both* to be of one Price; but also the Manufacture from *three* Parts, *bad French*, and *one* Part, *good English*, of exactly equal Value, with what was made *wholly* of the *very same superior English Wool*—Yet such was the Infatuation of People in those Times, that his Computations were held by some to be ⁱ judicious—Nor has it been unusual for Persons to be misled by ^{Chap. 148. §. 1.} Men, who would be thought able to compute, because they can put Figures together—But even that was not the Case here.

69. The Tract already mentioned (§. 64.) being calculated to inflame the People; and with that View (aping in Title THE DRAPER'S LETTERS AT DUBLIN) ^k industriously circulated: It did produce in the next ^{k Chap. 145. §. 11.} Session then following, such repeated Applications to Parliament, from various Parts of the Kingdom, besides the two great Cities of ^l London and ^{l §. 13.} Westminster, concerning *Runnage of Wools to FRANCE*, &c. as gave Rise to a Committee; which in the Result produced an Order to the Commissioners

of Trade, &c. to prepare a Scheme or Method for registering all Wools, against the next Meeting of Parliament.

^m Chap. 127.
§. 11.

• 1742.

70. And although it had before ^m been reported from that Board, in their Opinion, so far, an improper Measure, as that it would be attended with a Multiplicity of Accounts, and vast Expence besides: Yet, acting under an Authority not to be controled, THEY did prepare a Scheme of that Kind; and laid it before the Parliament, Feb. 12, 1741-2: To which, although there were no Objections considerable, that did not arise from the Nature of the Work intended; yet upon a nearer View, 'twas laid ⁿ aside, as impracticable. And indeed A REGISTRY OF WOOL is to be deemed an Incumbrance, no way necessary in Proportion to the Trouble of it; as any Person may be convinced, who will look into those Accounts given, of the FRENCH WOOLEN MANUFACTURIES, in these Memoirs (Chap. 151—70) also in Memoirs of the Dutch Trade (Chap. 92—96.) and likewise (Chap. 120, 121. 178, 179, 180, 183.) of other Kingdoms and Countries, besides BRITAIN, FRANCE, and IRELAND, producing * WOOL; and where Woollen Manufacturies are established.

• 1743.

^p Chap. 171.
No. 5.

71. In 1743 ^o, the Price of Wool in England advanced considerably; that of Cotswold particularly; viz. from twelve to TWENTY SHILLINGS per Tod. This in general, was at that Time held to be the Fruits of a great Flow of foreign Trade; conceived to arise from a then close Alliance of Great Britain, with the Queen of Hungary. But afterwards it ^p appeared that Woollen Exports about this Time, and of this Year particularly, were nothing comparable to those of 1737-8. And from Gloucestershire 'twas

* Suppose by way of Argument, a Motion, for taking and keeping all our Wools exactly registered; and this previous Question put, a very reasonable one, viz. Whether or no the Thing in View by it, is really TANTI? We venture to say, nothing less could make it so, to considerate Minds, than a full Persuasion, or rather, Proof, that THEY are, as hath been often represented, and never more so, than was about this very Time, so far A NECESSARY FOR CLOTHING TO ALL THE WORLD BESIDES, that other Nations CANNOT dispense with the Want of them, either raw or wrought. For certainly it is one Thing, to use all reasonable Precaution to secure the Profit of manufacturing them at Home; another, besides saddling the Public with a vast Expence, to subject innumerable Persons to an intolerable Yoke, for what at best can do but little Service comparatively; as every one must be convinced who sees, and will reflect how the World at large is circumstanced, both as to the MATERIAL, and ART; and whence must needs be concluded that the Woollen Trade of England rests far more, upon other Springs than that of a Registry, or any such unnatural Measure; namely, upon HONEST MAKING, FAIR DEALING, WISE TREATIES, and a PRUDENT DISPOSITION OF COMMERCE. And although, together with these, it is very proper to make a reasonable Provision against exporting Wool; yet are we humbly of Opinion, that it is not the present Circumstance of this Kingdom. (see §. 71.)

advised

advised by a Gentleman residing there, that “ *the Reason of such extraordinary* No. 6.
dinary Advance, in 1743, of COTESWOLD WOOLS, was not any Deficiency
in the Growth, of that Year, but the many and great Calls to FRANCE.
For (added he) to OUR Shame be it said, the most of OUR WOOL was THEN
bought by Commission for THAT KINGDOM.”

72. Notwithstanding a most prodigious Increase of Sheep (occasioned by the *Dislemper and Mortality of horned Cattle*, with other concurring Causes) beyond what EVER had been known BEFORE, in the same Space of Time: Yet the Price of Wool from 1743, continued thereabouts the same, to 1750; when for two Years, although yet more increased, it rose still higher, by above 20 per Cent.

73. THIS CIRCUMSTANCE, so contrary to what *they* had been accustomed to, for many Years, till 1743, at length tiring out the Patience of *Dealers* in that Commodity, *they*, under colour of certain Grievances, formed a *Scheme*, and made their Application to *Parliament*, for reducing the Business of *Wool-buying* into fewer Hands, a *sure Means to lower the Price of it*.

74. Some little Emotion was hereby occasioned; and during the *Stirrage*, a Point started and carried, of another Nature, but with like Intention; namely, for opening *all Ports*, to send out, and receive *Irish Wool* and *Yarn*—When, *Wool* dropping into the same low State, from which it had been raised, as mentioned (§. 71.): Nothing more was said of *Pitch* and *Tar Marks*, *false and fraudulent winding* *—And although it had hung

* We would not hence be understood to signify that those Complaints were wholly groundless—But this we mean to say, they were not, what certain Persons then had principally in their View; on the contrary, as hinted above (§. 73.) their chief Aim was, to suppress a Species of *Dealers*, called *WOOL JOBBERS*.

N. B. That whole Affair having been treated largely by the Author, under the Title of A REVIEW OF THE MANUFACTURER'S COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE WOOL GROWER, published by M. COOPER, IN PATER-NOSTER ROW, and not yet out of print, we shall therefore say of it here no more than this—viz. The Complaints were of *two* Grievances, AS IF quite recent, through a COMPARATIVE DEARNESS OF WOOL—Whereas, THIS LAST was what gave the greatest Umbrage; *those others* being rather trumped up, or made a Handle of, to serve the Turn abovementioned—ONE of them especially, with a peculiar Effrontery, not unusual in *Leaders* from the same Quarter, put upon their implicit Friends, for *true*, what, fairly considered, was in no wise *credible*; namely, that “ *Wool* being dearer by the *Stone*, “ than *PITCH* or *TAR*, and dearer *then*, for *seven* or *eight* Years past, than of a long Time “ before; ’twas THEREFORE, since such comparative Dearness, become a general Usage of “ *Grassiers* and *Farmers* throughout the Kingdom, to load their Sheep with a double Portion

Chap. 182.
§. 8.

hung much upon the Grower's Hands in 1752, because they were unwilling to let down the Price: Yet in 1753 being, reduced to accept generally about one Third less than in 1750 and 1751, their Wool then was, and since hath been every Year taken off, fully and readily, as at other Times. And by an Account published 1755, the Quantity run into *Boulogne* only, in the Space of about four Months, from *October* 1754, was said to be upwards of SIX THOUSAND Tods; more than one Half of it ready combed.

REMARK.

Chap. 186.
§. 1. Note.

75. As mentioned, at our Entrance on this shorter History, the chief Point for Observation being, how far the Nation hath profited by an absolute Prohibition on Wool, rather than the more ancient Policy, a Duty on that Material, TO PREVENT its being EXPORTED? This is a Question to be solved,

“ of those noxious, bare Materials, merely TO INCREASE THE WEIGHT OF THEIR FLEECES; and for NO OTHER REASON.

Our Review, &c. discrediting utterly, after due Enquiry, an Assertion so extravagant — A Calumny indeed so base, was nevertheless calculated, 1st, to give all possible Redress of, and Security against, the Mischiefs of Pitch and Tar Marks (not a novel Excess, with sordid Views, but an old, unthinking Rusticity, which instead of being increased, as represented, had in Fact been gradually wearing off) 2dly, to obviate fully the Frauds, with more Truth alledged, in winding; and 3dly, at the same Time to divert a Blow obliquely levelled at THE PRICE OF WOOL ITSELF. — 'Twas, in short, equally design'd to help the main Body of supposed Complainants, and to prevent the ill-designing few of them, in that wherein THEY covertly meditated an actual Injury to others, even Manufacturers, as well as Growers — Thus much we thought was just and reasonable (the Rule of writing we had proposed to observe) — And whoever deems that Work worth Perusal, with this Key, may better judge how far we rightly aimed and executed, or not — 'Tis, methinks, one Sign of our Impartiality — that some Persons on both Sides, have been said to condemn us; not in the same, but different Respects.

Howsoever that be, now that we are upon the Subject of those Tracts, 'tis thought proper, for certain Reasons, to mention, as a Kind of ANECDOTE, our having wrote them, by special Desire of THE M—Q—S of R—M — How this came about, will perhaps astonish some; and the History of it is more tedious than necessary, to relate here — 'Tis enough to say (accounting it no little Credit to ourselves) that an Application for that End was first advised by the present, A—y G—n—r—l WITH GREAT PURITY OF INTENTION — But the EMISSARIES EMPLOYED (who had been AGENTS also to PARLIAMENT in the SAME CAUSE) acting a low, though as THEY thought, very subtle Part, occasioned a Misunderstanding; insomuch that the N—LE M—Q—S in particular, at first Reading, did not relish the Performance throughout; yet confessed, that “ in several Regards “ NOTHING COULD BE MORE PROPER” — And, TO HIS HONOUR be it spoke! About three Months after, HIS fourth, and LAST Letter to THE AUTHOR, concluded thus —

“ As you was so obliging to undertake THIS WORK at MY Application, I should be glad to know, in what Manner I could, MOST AGREEABLY to YOURSELF, TESTIFY THE OBLIGATION; AND HOPE TO LEARN IT.”

A very inquisitive Reader will naturally wish to have the Sequel — But this is not the most proper Place for it. And we are not in haste to unfold our Tale, so far as justly we may, and by another Canal, probably shall do.

not

not from mistaken Ideas, or imperfect Scraps of Intelligence; but from a clear comprehensive View of CIRCUMSTANCES stated truly and fully: Of FACTS regularly deduced, and duly compared. And therefore after a Detail of SUCH, in this, and some foregoing Chapters, we recapitulate here, as follows.

76. England and Ireland HAVE NOT the boasted Superiority beyond all other Kingdoms and Countries, in this Material, WOOL; MUCH LESS, any Thing like a *sole Power* of furnishing that Necessary for Clothing, *Woolen Manufacture*.

77. Not only the making of Drapery in England, but an *Exportation Trade* for it, is of far higher Antiquity than *Queen Elizabeth*—It flourished greatly before her Time—And as this Trade was not certainly much more, in that celebrated Reign, than from *Edward VI.* to the Beginning of it: So an Increase, if any, cannot be ascribed to *her prohibiting the Exportation of Wool*; because SHE never once did THAT in any Shape.

78. Although *King James* and *King Charles*, by Proclamations, at Times; and the long Parliament by an Ordinance, once, did inhibit the Transportation of Wool; yet, when so inhibited, being all along suffered to pass abroad by *Licences*, those *State Edicts* had not the MONOPOLISH Effect, of a *Prohibition in good earnest*, by *Act of Parliament*, as since the *Restoration*.—Neither was the *Woolen Trade of England*, all Circumstances considered, more upon the whole, but probably less, from the Accession of *King James* to 1660, than it had been from *Edward VI.* to the last of *Elizabeth*.

79. In 1660, not sooner, commenced the POLICY of *prohibiting absolutely and seriously, the Exportation of Wool*: From which Time to 1678, the *manufacture Trade* declined prodigiously, compared with what it had been, even during the Reigns of *James* and *Charles I.*—The Price of Wool was extreme low, beyond all Example; and an illegal Exportation of it, a constant Subject of Complaint. And although a *Prohibition of French Commodities by Act of Parliament* 1678, was of some Advantage during the remaining Time of *Charles II.* yet upon his Demise, *King James II.* repealing the above *Act*, in Subserviency to the Policies and Power of *France*, the fair beneficial Trade of *England* relapsed into its former sickly State; while that of *Owling* prevailed in course.

80. Under *KING WILLIAM's Administration*, the *Prohibition on Wool*, and of *all Commerce with France*, were prosecuted with Resolution and Vigour.

Vigour. The *Manufactures* and *whole Trade* of England, in consequence of wiser and better Measures in the general, than had been for a long Term of Years before, increased greatly; also the Price of Wool, for several other Reasons; yet not enough, the Woolen Trade, to prevent Complaints on that Head, or in Truth to afford any Argument for the Prohibition, preferable to a Duty. For Example, it was not comparatively, greater than in the Times of *Queen Elizabeth*; nor was there probably less Running of Wool, in this Period, than under *Charles II.* and his immediate Successor—At least, it appears to have been a notorious Practice, during the whole Reign of KING WILLIAM.

† Chap. 192.
§. 19. Note.

81. LASTLY, as to the State of Things, since 1701.

From *Queen Anne's* Accession, to the Union, RUNNAGE appeared rather more than at other Times.—Nevertheless, and notwithstanding Complaints on that Head, as before, the Woolen Trade kept its Ground, so far as can be judged. The whole Exports in 1703, were nearly equal to what they had been in 1699, an extraordinary Year of that Kind; altho' it is to be remembered, Wool was even then confessedly and NOTORIOUSLY

u Chap. 192.
§. 19. Note.

run. In 1707-8, a Committee of Commons reported * that great Quantities of Wool had been clandestinely exported to foreign Parts. In 1708-9, the *English* Trade was said to be in a very prosperous State every where, particularly at *Lisbon*. For what more relates to this Reign, see (Chap. 182. §. 1.) 1711-12, 1713-14, 1714-5.

x Chap. 182.
§. 1.
(1707-8)
y Chap. 193.
§. 5.

82. From 1715 to 1728, the Price of Wool had remarkably its Rise and Fall. When highest (in 1717 * and 1718) Symptoms of Runnage were strongest. And being a falling Commodity for the last seven Years of this Period, 'twas then imputed to a Decay of Trade; which on the contrary appeared afterwards †, to have gradually increased—Reckoning then an Increase of Wool, and the Practice of exporting it clandestinely, to have obtained at all Times, from its being first prohibited; probably the same was not less, during the Reign of *King George I.* than of *King William* and *Queen Anne*.

z Chap. 113.
§. 3.

a Chap. 171.
No. V.

83. And although the Medium of Woolen Exports from 1728 to 1742 inclusive, by what we learn from those *Custom-House Accounts* that have occurred, increased rather more, than in the foregoing Reign; yet Complaints again of Runnage, and a Decay of the Woolen Trade, were more and greater than ever. Not only so, but a very low Price for Wool, during that whole

whole Term, was colourably urged in support of those Complaints—Indeed, the Growth of this Material, in 20 Years, to 1739, being supposed to have increased, one ^b Third; and considering what had been the Case ^b Chap. 139. ^{§. 7.} aforesaid, and, which is *much to be remarked*, though extremely cheap, 'twas commonly bought up Year by Year * from the Grower — *All these Circumstances* laid together, make it highly probable, that in this Period 'twas exported raw, in at least the same Degree, as at any Time before: Which Opinion receives no little Confirmation, 1st, from *the Lords in Parliament* having addressed his Majesty^c, about the Year 1730, that ^c Chap. 127. "THE COMMISSIONERS OF TRADE might be directed to receive, and report " *all such Proposals, as should be laid before them for preventing that pernicious " Practice.*" 2dly, Afterwards *the* ^d Commons, in like Manner, that the ^d Chap. 145. ^{§. 12.} said COMMISSIONERS *should prepare* (which accordingly was done) A SCHEME, by Way of Prevention, for registering all Wools grown in BRITAIN and IRELAND; which SCHEME was laid aside, it is to be conceived, considering what Notions † then prevailed, only for the Reason of it, or any other possibly to be devised, being greatly inconvenient, if not in the Nature of Things, wholly impracticable.

84. The sudden Rise of Wool in ^e 1743—Its holding the same Price, ^e Chap. 171. or thereabouts, for *nine Years* successively, notwithstanding an increased ^{No. VI.} Growth of it, to the Amount, as allowed, of *one Third MORE*, in that short Space, upon a Medium (which we think to have been the very least) — Its flowing still higher, in 1750 and 1751, although still more considerably increased — Its great Ebb, in 1753, and being from that Time bought up readily and fully as ever, are Phænomena not to be explained by our Custom-House Accounts (nor any other Way to be equally credited) but (upon the Supposition of Runnage) 1st, by the advanced

* Plenty of Wool bought up Year by Year, from the Grower, whether the Price is more, or less, indicates most certainly, either A LARGE VENT FOR MANUFACTURE, or an EXCESSIVE RUNNAGE OF THE MATERIAL; or a Degree of BOTH — But without considering this, it hath been most usual to impute a lower Price for WOOL to the Failure of Woolen Exports; an higher, *e contra*, to a Flow of that Trade — See, therefore, what was the Case from 1743, to the Peace of *Aix la Chapelle*. (§. 110.)

† The prevailing Notions at that Time were, 1. An immense Quantity of raw Wool yearly exported. 2. A vast Advantage to Foreigners from it, for mixing with other Wools. 3. The low Price of it in ENGLAND, for the two foregoing Reasons. 4. A Possibility, consequently, of raising greatly the Prices of ENGLISH WOOLS IN ENGLAND, by confining them certainly, as was expected to be done in the Method of a GENERAL REGISTRY.

Price of that Commodity in foreign Markets; 2dly, by its falling there, afterwards. And of this, it so happens, we have some direct Proof.

85. For Instance, the fictitious Sir J. Nichols hath informed the Public that in 1750 and 1751 (when, it is to be noted, they bore the highest Price in England) the finest long Wools of ^f *Lincolnshire* had been sold on an Average, at SIXTEEN PENCE a Pound; which (he says) was an Advance of twenty per Cent.—But WHERE? The *Lincolnshire* Grower, though sensible of at least twenty per Cent. Advance, knew nothing of such a Price as SIXTEEN PENCE per Pound; which is THIRTY SEVEN SHILLINGS FOUR PENCE the *Tod*—Nor of that Price, within twenty per Cent. or any Thing like it. And, therefore, the pretended Sir J. we think, is to be understood of the *finest long Lincolnshire Wools at a FOREIGN MARKET*. And, if so, that accounts, in our Way, for the Advance there was in *England*, about the same Time——Again, we learn certainly from an AMSTERDAM PRICE COURANT, *March 15, 1753*, that ENGLISH WOOL sold THERE, at from eight to ten ^s *Stivers* the Pound; eleven of which *Stivers* being equal to one *English Shilling*, that was from about a *Guinea* to 25s. per *Tod*.—A great Drop from 37s. 4d. two Years before! But very much in Proportion to the *Fall of Wool in England*; where it was sold by the Grower for about one Third, less, in 1753, than in 1750 and 1751. And *English Wool in Holland*, at from a *Guinea* to 25s., when the same in *England* was from 13s. to 17s., is nearly the same Difference, as 37s. 4d. abroad, in 1750 and 1751, for Wool at Home, at about 24s. THESE TWO INSTANCES then prove that the Price of *English Wool*, at those two Times particularly, was about one Third less, at Home, than in foreign Markets; which Markets, though they are apt to vary; yet that of *England* being ALWAYS, *since the Prohibition*, so much at least, as mentioned, under them: It explains, for one Reason, 1st, why *English Wool in England*, hath commonly been at a much lower Price, and why it hath never rose so high, since the *Restoration*, as oftentimes ^h before: It accounts, 2dly, for the almost constant ⁱ Complaints, that have been, from that Time, of *Runnage*, and, as in course imagined, a declining Woolen Trade; evidenced for the most part, according to vulgar Belief, by such very low Price of Wool—But here note, we shall shew, beyond a Possibility of Contradiction, that though Complaints of a DECLINING WOOLEN TRADE, have been

^f Chap. 180.
§. 9.

^s Chap. 182.
§. 6.

^h Chap. 176.

ⁱ Chap. 182.
§. 1.

been a *Mistake*, ever since the REVOLUTION; yet RUNNAGE OF WOOL hath been NO FICTION; but all along a REALITY.

86. *This last* indeed, is the genuine Fruit of A PROHIBITION; the Virtues whereof, its Force and Operation, are plainly no other than an *unnatural artificial Cheapness*, which always *did*, and so long as it continues, will produce RUNNAGE. And though the Bulk of *English* Writers have constantly denied, and by assigning other Reasons and Motives, have endeavoured to conceal, the true Cause: yet our feigned *Sir J. Nichols*, otherwise *Monsieur of Versailles*, frankly admits it; as needs he must, after seeing all contrary Pretences substantially refuted—And therefore thinking it best to face about manfully, he hath had Courage to affirm, that it is a VALUABLE^k CIRCUMSTANCE for *England*—That *the*^k Chap. 180. *Prohibition* being in the Nature of a *Lock* to a running Stream, it holds §. 13. up this Material to a Pitch of Plenty and Cheapness—nay, to an overabundance, or superfluous Waste, that *must* pass abroad—Yet the same dripping off insensibly, not without Expence and Difficulty, by private Ways and Means, of *Owlers* and *Smugglers*, 'tis (he says) quite the best that can be for ENGLAND; only “*diminishing in other Countries, the* “*Multiplication of THEIR SHEEP, more than it does the Work of OUR MANUFACTURERS.*” — Therefore (adds he) “THE PROHIBITION OUGHT “TO BE FOR¹ EVER CONTINUED.” FRENCH KINDNESS! *Counsel*¹ Chap. 180. from FRANCE to its *old loving and beloved Neighbour, England!* §. 13.

87. But although this Gentleman hath, with sufficient Ingenuity, put OUR PROHIBITION in the very best Light it will bear, to be consistent with Truth: Yet by his Favour, and with all due Thanks for his *Benevolence*: As, from the *Restoration*, it hath been almost incessantly endeavoured, though without due Effect, to stop those Chinks, which neglected, are apt to grow wider by Time: So we presume, it will continue to be thought the proper Object of Care and Contrivance—*Well were it if those who have Things much in their Power, would club their Consideration and Influence accordingly!* For, without giving into idle extravagant Notions concerning the Quality of *English* and *Irish* Wools, either for mixing, or, &c. As the Quantity run, whatever it be, is most undoubtedly wrought up abroad: So 'tis more likely, that the same, if possible to be retained at Home, might have a foreign Vent in Manufacture; or, if not possible to be retained, that certainly it might be dispos'd of, in a Way more

just to Individuals, for the Public more beneficial—And, therefore, instead of acquiescing in that *oppressive* CHEAPNESS so highly applauded; instead of approving that consequential, and, we think, *pernicious* RUNNAGE so wantonly palliated by an *amphibious* ^m Author, we should now proceed to what we are verily persuaded hath a far more kindly Aspect to the Nation, in every *rational, worthy, HONEST View*—But *first*, to evidence, as was proposed, that Complaints of a *declining Woolen Trade* have, from the *Revolution*, been founded in *Mistake*—NOT so, those concerning *Runnage of Wool*; resuming such Custom-house Accounts as have occurred in this *eighteenth Century*, we shall exhibit them in several Lights, and thence shew, how they witness with much Uniformity the same Things—In doing this, we shall desire at first to have it taken for granted (contrary to a Notion started latterly) that those Accounts of Woolen Exports are not only the best Rule of Comparison which the Subject does afford; but for the Purpose, a tolerable good one—Afterwards, we shall go near to prove them such.

88. THOSE ACCOUNTS we refer to, ('tis proper to mention it) are ALL of the Kind we have been able to obtain—THEY were procured by the Author, not without Difficulty, at three different Times, for so many distinct Reasons.

89. FIRST, from 1718 to 1724 inclusive, as one Means to ascertain what had been the State of Things at, and about the Time of the Plague at MAR-
 • Chap. 171, SEILLESⁿ; concerning which, much had been said, and often, that the Au-
 174- thor knowing in one Respect, and having Reason to think in another, was not true; it stood with the Design of his Work, if so, to undeceive the Nation in that Particular also—SECONDLY, from 1738 to 1743 inclusive, in order to see what was to be said for the so SUDDEN RISE OF WOOL IN 1743, and whether that Intelligence he received from ^o GLOUCESTERSHIRE, was probable, or not—THIRDLY, from 1744 to 1753^p inclusive; for the
 • Chap. 171. sake of informing himself and the Public still further, of the true Reason why
 No. 6. Wool kept its Price for NINE YEARS together, under such a manifest increased
 • Chap. 182. Growth of it, for sundry Causes, that the like had never been known before
 §. 4. in this Kingdom; and which Continuation of Price, was more surprising, because, for five Years, it was a Time of War, and, some of it, Rebellion too—Circumstances, not commonly favourable to the Manufactures and Trade of any Nation—He was also curious to know, if the Reason then assigned, namely,

namely, an Ebb of Trade, was a true one, for the Fall of Wool, one Third, in 1753.

90. Accordingly, we shall FIRST exhibit the abovementioned Accounts, in three distinct Periods, as they were taken, of SEVEN, SIX, and TEN YEARS; giving both the Total, and annual Medium, of each Period; which we presume is a fair Way of considering the same. NEXT, we shall compare them, as the Nation was in Peace, or War. — LASTLY, as Wool rose or fell in Price, and as the Growth of it was increased.

91. The Total of *Woolen Exports* The yearly Medium of *Woolen Ex-* Chap. 171.
from 1718 to 1724 inclusive, being ports from 1718 to 1724 inclusive, No. 5.
SEVEN Years, — l. 20740168 l. 2962881, 2s. 10d.

92. Total from 1738 to 1743 in- The yearly Medium from 1738 to
clusive, being SIX Years, l. 21003715 1743 inclusive, l. 3500619 3s. 4d.

93. Total ^a from 1744 to 1753 in- The yearly Medium from 1744 to ^a Chap. 182.
clusive, being TEN Years, l. 37371478. 1753 inclusive, 3737147l. 16s. 0d. §. 4.

94. The yearly Increase on a Medium, from 1738 to } l. s. d.
1743 inclusive, beyond the Medium from 1718 to 1724 } 537738 00 6
inclusive, — — —

95. The yearly Increase on a Medium from 1744 to }
1753 inclusive, beyond the Medium from 1738 to 1743 } 236528 12 8
inclusive, — — —

96. The yearly Increase on a Medium, from 1744 to }
1753 inclusive, beyond the Medium from 1718 to 1724 } 774266 13 2
inclusive, — — —

97. What hath been remarked before^a, on those Accounts (§. 91.) from ^a Chap. 174.
1718 to 1724, is unnecessary to be repeated---So that 'tis enough to observe
here, a PROGRESSIVE INCREASE OF THE WOOLEN TRADE; such as car-
ries with it an Appearance of Probability, agreeable to the Sentiments of
Persons best informed, and willing to acknowledge this Truth, viz. that the
whole Trade of England hath been in a growing State^a, ever since the ^a Chap. 139.
Revolution; and more particularly for forty Years last past. Its true, the
INCREASE on a Medium, of Woolen Exports from 1738 to 1743, exceeds that
from 1744 to 1753---But considering a Chasm in our Accounts, of 13 Years, from
1725 to 1737 inclusive, and withal, supposing it probable, that the TOTAL of 1738
singly (see §. 99.) exceeds the MEDIUM of that Year taken with some preceding
ones, it seems as if the Woolen Trade had been all along increasing, some-
what in the same, though not an exact geometrical Proportion (for that is not

to be expected) and this affords one Mark of Credibility to our Custom-house Accounts—It is an Argument that they are not, as some would have them believed, like so many Figures thrown together by chance, or at random.

98. THIS PROGRESSIVE INCREASE then of the Woolen Trade we note against Mr. Postlethwait in particular, who hath charged Persons holding any such Opinion, with arguing against Demonstration. And what is that Gentleman's Demonstration? A vain Pretence, that first, the Flemings; since the English, furnished the whole World with all their Woolens—But that lately, and, not till very lately, some other Nations had begun to cloath THEMSELVES and their NEIGHBOURS—This we cannot allow to be true History in any Regard, neither can any Testimony be offered, to invalidate what hath been here produced, to evidence that Complaints of a declining Woolen Trade have, from the Revolution, been founded in Mistake --- Nevertheless, the MEDIUM of Woolen Exports from 1744 to 1753, notwithstanding what Increase there is, beyond the MEDIUM from 1738 to 1743, proves to a real Demonstration, Runnage of Wool in no little Quantities, as will be evinced, before we dismiss these two last Accounts; which we shall next compare, according as the Nation was in Peace, or War.

99. Total of Woolen Exports in 1738, the Year before } £. s. d.
War with Spain ————— } 4158643 0 0

100. The yearly Medium of Woolen Exports from " 1739, }
the Beginning of War, to 1748 inclusive, viz. the Peace } 3327057 8 0
of Aix la Chapelle, —————

101. The yearly Medium of Woolen Exports from 1749, }
the first Year of Peace, to 1753 inclusive — } 4189195 0 0

102. The Medium Decrease during War, from the Total }
of 1738, ————— } 831585 12 0

103. The Medium Increase, since the Peace, to 1753 }
inclusive (see §. 100, 101.) ————— } 862,137 12 0

104. The Medium Increase, since the Peace, to 1753, }
exceeds the Medium Decrease during the War, — } 30552 0 0

N. B. As there is nothing in all this but what is very probable*: So they are Circumstances that do contribute further to the Credit of these Accounts.

105. LASTLY then (and wherein consists what of the marvellous they contain) to compare Custom-house Accounts, according to the Price that Wool bore from Time to Time, and according to the Quantity produced.

106. The yearly Medium of Woolen Exports, from 1738 }
to 1742 inclusive, when Wool was at the very lowest. } 3492,432 8 0

107. The

107. The yearly Medium of Woolen Exports from 1743 (when Wool advanced * considerably) to 1749 inclusive, during which Time its Price continued much the same altho' the Quantity produced was greatly more. } l. s. d. 3492,130 5 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ * Chap. 171. No. 6.

108. The yearly Medium from 1750 to 1752 inclusive, when the Price of Wool advanced still higher, by at least 20 per Cent. and the yearly Growth was prodigiously more increased, } 4081630 6 8

109. Total of Woolen Exports, 1753, when Wool fell about one Third of its Price, from that of 1750, 1751. } 4223233 0 0

110. The Medium Decrease yearly from 1743 to 1749 inclusive (the Wool being more and dearer) compared with the yearly Medium, from 1738 to 1742 inclusive, when, tho' the Growth of Wool was very much less, yet was it vastly cheaper. * } 301 2 8 $\frac{1}{2}$

111. Total of Woolen Exports in 1753 (when Wool fell one Third from its Price in 1750, 1751) exceeds the Medium from 1750 to 1752 inclusive, † } 141602 13 4

112. Since

* Here note (for 'tis much to be remarked, (although the yearly Increase of Woolen Exports on a Medium from 1744 to 1753 inclusive, beyond the Medium from 1718 to 1724 (§. 96.) was £ 774,266 13s. 2d.—And although Wool, having advanced considerably in 1743, kept its Price for nine Years successively, albeit 'twas greatly increasing in Quantity all along—Yet did the Woolen Exports of 1744 and 1745 * fall short on a Medium, from those of 1718 to * Chap. 182. 1724, by £ 107678 per Annum. And even in the Year 1743, when the Price of Wool did so §. 4. very much advance at once, beyond what it had sold at in 1738, the Exports of that Year were less than those of 1738 by £ 617085—Now from these, and other similar Circumstances, the natural Inference is, that THE PRICE OF WOOL IN ENGLAND is not governed, as commonly imagined, by the Increase and Decrease of either OUR WOOL, or WOOLEN EXPORTS. And what then can possibly influence the English Market Prices for it, but as ONE CAUSE, the more, or less Exportation of OUR WOOL, RAW; and as ANOTHER, the more, or less Agreement of OUR WOOL BUYERS, among THEMSELVES?

† N. B. A Writer, occasionally, of very great Consideration, whose Person and Character we hold accordingly in the utmost Esteem, regulating his Opinions, in 1752, upon this Subject, by the Voice of Traders, and that common Standard, the lower, or higher Price of Wool, says, with regard to the cheaper Season (§. 106.) “ Let them only look back and reflect on the Deadness of Trade, which, some Years since, was our unkind Situation; when the Wool, though not I suppose, above $\frac{1}{2}$ of the present Growth, COULD NOT ALL BE CONSUMED, and what was sold, was on very low Terms, full 30 per Cent. under the present Prices.”—Again, for the Time it had been dearer (§. 107) “ Farmers, from the great Vent of our Manufactures abroad, enjoyed the Benefit of a lively Demand for Wool at a great Price.”—Lastly, as if, when he wrote, the Flow was then over, and an Ebb commenced “ the Woolen Trade (he said) was in a ticklish Situation” changed and changing very much for the worse—But, observe first, §. 106) then (107) and again (§. 108, 9, 10, 11) how ill these several Suppositions agree with Custom-house Accounts all along—And this, we see it is, as the vulgar Proverb says, to reckon without our Host—It verifies what we have laid down in a Tract b before mentioned, viz. that “ from any other View than of “ Cui-

b Review, &c. Part III. p. 16. (see §. 74. Note.) See also §. 123. Note.

112. Since the *Increase of Wool* is too evident to be disallowed, we can have no Dispute, about the *Runnage* of it being a certain Matter of Fact, with those who deny a progressive Increase of the *English Woolen Trade*; and, on the contrary, urge its having declined Year after Year—But, two Points, we maintain, are, 1st, *the Woolen Trade hath increased progressively*, 2dly, *RUNNING OF WOOL hath nevertheless prevailed in no small Degree*.

113. The *first* of these appears evidently (§ 91—96), and in Order to prove the *second*, viz. that *RUNNING OF WOOL* is no *Chimera*, we desire, first, to lay our Finger particularly upon the *Ten Years Period* from 1744 to 1753 inclusive (§ 93) compared with that immediately foregoing (§ 92) from 1738 to 1743, after which we shall greatly strengthen our Proof, by some other Comparisons.

114. The *Medium Yearly Increase of Woolen Exports*, in this long Period of *Ten Years*, compared with the *six*, next preceding, was no more than 236528 £. 12s. 8d.—But the *increased Growth* of the raw material *Wool*, through very remarkable Incidents, far exceeded that Value, in the first Instance.

115. Need we say what those Incidents were that could, or did, occasion an *Increase in England of Wool*? Besides many lesser causes conspiring, they were principally, first, *The Distemper and Mortality of Horned Cattle*; secondly, *Several dry Summers, and some very favourable Winters*; thirdly, *The advanced Price of Wool*.—This last, and the first, being too notorious to be forgot or denied, they are obvious Ways of accounting for the *Increase* of that Commodity *being attempted*; which tho' unkindly Seasons might have frustrated in some Measure; yet was not that the Case at all; but the Reverse; more than had been known for so many Years together, in *this Century* at least. If it be asked, how much was that *Increase*? 'Tis impossible to answer exactly.—'Twas confessed publicly to have been, *one Third*, more. And we believe, it was the very least.

116. The Author conversing on this Point, with a sensible honest Gra-
zier in 1752.—He did acknowledge that for his own Part, he had then
latterly, grown 200 *Tods of Wool* on the same Farm (*consisting wholly of*

“ Custom-house Accounts, a Person can no more compare one Time of our WHOLE WOOLEN
“ TRADE with another, than he can see, or describe the whole Kingdom itself, by ascending
“ to some few Eminencies of it.”

in

inclosed Pasture Grounds, without any Right of Common in Fens, or &c.) which Ten Years before, had been used to produced him not more than about 100 *Tods*. And the very Reason assigned by him for this *double Portion* was, *the Distemper of Horned Cattle*, that had in a great Measure obliged him to it; and besides, the *Price of Wool* had been a further Inducement.—This being a common Case of the County (*Lincolnshire*) the Kingdom almost, he was sensible the Increase upon the whole, must have been prodigiously great, and that *one third* more, was a very modest Computation; especially (added he) “considering, besides what is a general
“Circumstance, how *much more than two fold*, that Stock hath been for
“the last Ten Years, upon innumerable Fens and Commons in particular;
“usually depastured with Sheep, although subject to Diminution by *rot-*
“*ting* in wet Summers,—but for contrary Reasons being sound and
“healthy all the Time, and far beyond what can be remembred for so
“long a Term together, the Flocks there have multiplied exceedingly.”
—Moreover he took Notice that, “some large Districts in several Coun-
“ties, before the Distemper, wholly addicted to horned Cattle, having
“necessarily changed their Measures, large Quanties of WOOL * were then
“grown, where it was not a Commodity at all, before.”

117. And therefore without pretending to estimate the whole yearly Quantity of Wool; or the Proportion of home Consumption, to our Exportation-Trade for the Manufacture, we think it may be safely affirmed that an Increase of Woollen Exports, to the annual Amount on a Medium, of only 236528*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.* was by no means in Proportion to the annual increased Growth of Wool.—If the latter was BUT *one THIRD*, on a Medium, the former was NOT *one FOURTEENTH*. *Under these Circumstances, the ADVANC'D PRICE OF IT, as was the Case, is a Mystery not to be unfolded, without a Supposition of RUNNAGE*, — especially considering that, while the Quantity produced was *so much less*, a general Belief prevailed, of *Wool* being even THEN *run*: and though not in the excessive Quantities, that some extravagantly represented; yet to such a Degree, that 'twas publicly and solemnly considered, how to contrive a *Scheme of Registry*, for preventing it (see § 49, 64, 68—70) see also § 71.

* *Note*, Let not the NICE READER object here, that to descend into vulgar Considerations, like these, is stooping too low; since without such, there is no treating this Part of our Subject, in a Way to be useful, that is, to come at the Truth of Things.

118. But further; if, varying our Comparison, we take, of these *Ten Years*, only *Five*, viz. from 1744 to 1748 inclusive, it will be found that the *annual Medium* from 1738 to 1743, (viz. of *Six Years* immediately preceding those *five*) exceeded them by upwards of 215500*l.* Yearly; which shews the Affair of Runnage in a more clear and yet stronger Light.—Nay, if we leave out the Year 1738, as perhaps an extraordinary one, still the *Medium* from 1739 to 1743, exceeds that of the *Five next following Years*, by near 84000*l.* per Ann.—Or, if we compare the last *Four Years*, before *Wool* did advance, viz. from 1739 to 1742, inclusive with the next *Four*, after such Advance, viz. from 1743 to 1746 inclusive, the *Medium* of the former, exceeds the latter, more than *l.*100000 per Annum.

119. Lastly, if we compare the *Medium* from 1738 to 1742 inclusive (while *Wool* was at the lowest, and the *Quantity* far less) with the *Medium* from 1743 (when *Wool* advanced at once^a considerably) to 1749 inclusive (during which Time the *Price of Wool* kept up, notwithstanding that the *Quantity* produced, was greatly more) the *Medium decrease* in this last Period, compared with the *Medium* of that next before, was *l.*301 2*s.* 8*d.* $\frac{1}{2}$ —Such advanced *Price of the Material*, under such an increased Growth of it, with even this last, though inconsiderably small, Decrease of Woolen Exports, instead of a very large Increase, as naturally one would have expected, is * no Way rationally to be accounted for, but upon the Foot of RUNNAGE.

120. Viewing then our Custom-house Accounts referred to, in each of the above Lights singly, they are strong Signs of *Wool-running*; and considered all together, they prove it most evidently, against those who will have the *Price of Wool* to be the surest Test of an Increase or Decrease

* And especially, among other Reasons, from what was given in Evidence before the COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT, upon Petitions (1751-2) relating to FALSE WINDING OF WOOL, &c. namely, by Mr. RAYNER OF LEEDS, viz. that he “ had been glad to buy for SEVENTEEN Shillings, what formerly cost him but TEN Shillings per TON.—That the increased Price, for Seven Years past, was occasioned by a LARGE DEMAND FOR MANUFACTURE, making the SCARCITY OF WOOL so great, that if they had refused a Parcel for not being agreeable to Sample, they COULD HAVE HAD NONE,—that the old Clip from Year to Year, had been so far consumed, before the new came on, that it was with Difficulty they could get WOOL, to supply their Combers.” (See Report from the Committee printed 1752, page 7—11). And truly without an enlarged Demand for Manufacture, (which plainly there was not) Combers might possibly be employed, as if it was so; since demonstrably MUCH WOOL was now exported, and probably a great Share of it ready comb’d, which is very much a Practice we believe, for many Reasons; this in particular; that it is sending off, only what is ^b pure, and leaving the Dross behind.

^a Chap. 171.
No. 6.
^b Chap. 11.
§ 9. Note.
Ch. 140. § 15

in

in the *Woolen Exportation Trade*; whereas in most Instances, we have been able to produce, it appears to be *no Test at all*. And particularly it is to be noted of 1753, (when WOOL fell, ONE THIRD OF ITS PRICE, from what it had been, two Years before, and for which was pretended a Stagnation of Business) the Exports of that very Year exceeded the *Medium* of the *three* next preceding ones (in *two* of which WOOL had risen to the very highest) £. 141602 13s. 4d. (See §. 111).

121. Our *French*, or *Frenchified*, Sir J. Nicols, aware of these frequent Disagreements between the Price of *English Wool* in *England*, and *Woolen Exports* THENCE *, turns his Argument, in Favour to *the Prohibition*, a contrary Way; and says, whenever the Material is LOWEST in *England*, Exports of Manufacture, are then, *always* HIGHEST, for that very Reason; and he calls to witness this, *our Custom House* † *Accounts*. But those ^{a Chap. 182} of 1749, 1750, and 1751 ^a, do not prove his Point, rather the reverse. At §. 4. least they are an *Exception to his Rule*.

122. 'Tis true, the *Medium Increase* annually from the Peace of *Aix-la-Chapelle*, to 1753 inclusive, is £. 862137 12s. But that exceeding the *Medium Decrease*, during *War* with *Spain* and *France*, only £. 30552 per Annum: It by no means accounts for the *Surplus*, we must suppose to have arisen, both from such *Decrease of Trade*. (See §. 102), and from the *so very much increased Growth* of WOOL, as was indisputably ‡ in that Period.

123. Neither

* Woolen Exports ^b .			Price of Wool per T ^{ad} , from the same Farm.			^b Chap. 171. No. 5.
		£.	£.	s.	d.	
Total	1718	}	5423993	}	1 01 0	
	1719				1 00 6	
	1738	}	7376916	}	0 13 6	
	1739				0 13 0	
	1738	}	4158643	}	0 13 6	
	1743				0 19 6	

† What we believe OUR CUSTOM HOUSE ACCOUNTS TO WITNESS commonly on this Head is, that whensoever ENGLISH WOOL sells *dearest* in ENGLAND, then does RUNNAGE of it prevail certainly rather MORE than at other Times; to which, as one Cause, is owing in some Measure the advanced Price of it at Home; but still more, as another, to THE PRICE OF WOOL IN GENERAL AT FOREIGN MARKETS.

‡ If that *Surplus* at least had not been *clandestinely exported*, WOOL in ENGLAND could not possibly have advanced, as it did, in the Year 1750 and 1751.—Thus far then is verified again (which we have said heretofore ^c) “What happened from Time to Time (meaning ever since “the Prohibition took Place) not to be wanted here, hath ALL ALONG, transpired beyond “Sea.” (See §. 23 Note). AND THEREFORE; if, without regarding the INCREASED ^{c Review, &c} GROWTH, or what was the Case aforesaid, we compute the Quantity probably run in this Part iii. p. 57
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123. Neither was there a Deficiency in the usual Imports of *Wool* and *Yarn* from *Ireland*, to eke out the Shadow of an Argument, that Way.

^c Chap. 182. *Custom House Accounts*, we have ^c, on this Head, from 1745 to 1750, tell
^{§ 3.} us that the *annual Medium* of both together in that Term, was 205532⁵/₈ *Stones*. But the *annual Medium*, from 1741 to 1744 ^d inclusive, was only
^d Chap. 143 *Stones*; and from 1726 to 1729 inclusive, not more than 132398¹/₄
^{No. viii. §. 4.} *Stones*. So that here was comparatively no small Increase of *Wool*, as well
^{Ch. 171 No. 5} as *Yarn*, imported from *Ireland*.—Whence we might very plausibly infer,
 first, *As if the advanced Price of Wool in England had made consequently, an*
*increased Import of that Material raw, from IRELAND **; and that it is an
Argument of what the Fruits might, and certainly indeed would be, if, RUN-
NAGE BEING ONCE EFFECTUALLY PREVENTED, Wool bore commonly a
better Price with us; that is, if 'twas brought more nearly to a LEVEL
with the MARKET PRICE of EUROPE; but, secondly, We may, and
 very truly observe, how little *such increased Imports did in Fact avail*
towards depriving Foreigners at this Time, 1745—1750, or must do at all
others, so long as an illicit Trade from England shall obtain—that it is, as
we have said in a Tract already cited oftener than once, only “ like pouring
“ Water into a Vessel already Edge-full, and running over †.” For that
was

Period, ONLY from the *Surplus* occasioned by such Decrease of *Woolen Exports*, during the *War*, which in the whole was not less than SEVEN MILLIONS; thence it follows that the Quantity of RAW WOOL, which did ACTUALLY TRANSPIRE BEYOND SEA, was not inconsiderable.

^e Chap. 75. * We have before observed ^e in general, that those Imports from IRELAND, tend naturally
^{§. 13. Note.} to LOWER THE PRICE OF WOOL in ENGLAND; and we have shewed it in one In-
^f Chap. 126. stance ^f very particularly—Neither do we esteem this here, to be any Exception to that Rule.
^{§. 31.} —But if we could suppose it was merely an Effect of WOOL selling DEARER than common in
^{Chap. 174.} ENGLAND; yet that doing so, most evidently, for the Reason of RUNNAGE THENCE, these
^{§. 17, 18.} Imports were likewise some Cause of ITS BEING RUN STILL MORE.—In Truth, 'tis not
 only Matter of Surprise that the Imports of IRISH WOOL should have thus increased at this
 Conjunction, when it sold MUCH DEARER elsewhere; but 'tis wonderful that any at all should
^g Chap. 85. be imported from IRELAND, where of late Years, it hath bore commonly a BETTER PRICE ^g
^{§. 10.} than ENGLISH WOOL in ENGLAND; whence some have not improbably concluded, what of
 that Sort is done, serves in some Shape, by Way of Screen for an illicit Trade in the Commo-
 dity, on one Side the Water, or the other, if not BOTH.

† REVIEW OF THE MANUFACTURER'S COMPLAINTS, &c. Part iii. page 43. (See
^{§. 74 Note.} Which REVIEW, in ALL ITS PARTS, is perhaps worth preserving by Gen-
 tlemen, who are desirous to defend the WOOL GROWER from THAT OPPRESSION with
 which (we have it at the first Hand) they are still threatened at a CONVENIENT JUNCTURE.
 —But the Part we have here referred to, more especially deserves to be read and considered
 along with this Chapter, from §. 86, and some others that will follow, —Because, first, 'twas
^h Chap. 182. wrote according to the then Appearance of Things, before CUSTOM HOUSE ACCOUNTS (§. 93
^{§. 4.} &c.) from 1744 to 1753 h, could be obtained by the Author. Secondly, The Reader will
 therein

was eminently the Case at the Time we are speaking of. And we may be assured, Wool and Yarn from Ireland, when not actually wanted, always did, and ever will but quicken the Current of English Wool to FOREIGN MARKETS. Thirdly, It is further to be noted from the Premises (§. 91, &c.) that *howsoever* guilty People of IRELAND are in the Matter of Wool running, THEY are neither sole, nor as Mr. Postlethwaytⁱ with many others, thinksⁱ Chap. 185. §. 2. them, principal Aggressors in that Way.

124. Upon the whole, after such manifest Proof, *à posteriori*, it does not signify against the Truth, of WOOL BEING RUN from England, that we are at a Loss to say, by *what Canals* it passes beyond Sea. Were those known, they would be damm'd up; but still, under the same Pressure, 'twould burst out in some other Places.

125. It does not signify (what is commonly objected) that in the ordinary Method of Package, 'tis a bulky Commodity, and that few Seizures are made, if any. Causes are oftentimes to be seen by their Effects only. And we must believe many Things, of which we cannot have ocular Demonstration. And there having been most plainly and indisputably, not for a single Start of Time, but a Succession uninterrupted of several Years, an EXTRAORDINARY QUANTITY OF WOOL produced in England, the Consumption of which at Home cannot be accounted for, by a vast deal; we may assuredly conclude its having transpired abroad, as if we had seen it go in entire Fleets, as heretofore^k.—'Tis some Answer to the foregoing^k Ch. 16. Objections, that after a continued Practice of clandestine Exportation, for §. 10. near a Century, it is the less strange, if Persons using it, are got into very snug Methods for the Purpose, beyond what was the Case formerly.

126. Yet, not to rest the Matter so, we urge the utmost moral Certainty, for what relates to this very critical Period, in all its Circumstances,

therein find, although some Arguments, nearly if not quite the same, yet others that are not so, but which may be judged collateral, or supplemental to those made use of here; and still more particularly in Chap. 196. WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND IT TO OUR ATTENTIVE READERS for Variety Sake; AND THE RATHER, BECAUSE, AS MR. LOCKE HATH OBSERVED, "Some Objects had need be turned on every Side; especially if the Notion is NEW, or OUT OF THE COMMON ROAD, [in which Case] 'tis not one simple View of it, that will gain it Admittance into every Understanding, or fix it there with a clear and lasting Impression. — There are few who have not observed in THEMSELVES or OTHERS, that what in ONE Way of proposing was very obscure, ANOTHER Way of expressing it has made very clear and intelligible, though afterwards the Mind found very little Difference in the Phrases, and wondered why ONE failed to be understood more than the OTHER. — But every Thing does not hit alike every Man's Imagination."

¹ Chap. 174.

from 1744 to 1753; the like whereto hath NEVER happened *before*, and cannot easily happen *again*: THE TIME of the Plague at *Marseilles* was a Criterion¹ not inconsiderable in one Respect. But *that* was little, compared with *this*—HERE was an *evident, sudden, continued*, upon the whole *immense*, INCREASE OF WOOL, from a remarkable Conjunction of *known, uncommon Causes*; not ONE of which had any Tendency to create a Swell of foreign Trade for *Woolens*: NOR could other than *foreign Incidents* equally *uncommon*, even to a Kind of Miracle, have produced such an Event; which Miracle would be still heightened by this Consideration, *viz.* That there are *no Marks* of it upon the Face of our *Custom House Accounts*—Laying therefore these *three* Circumstances together,

First, *What was the increased Growth of Wool?*

Secondly, *What MUST have been the Swell of our foreign Trade in Woolens, to have so taken it off, as to make and keep the Material at an advanced Price, and when yet more increased, to advance considerably HIGHER?*

Thirdly, *How LITTLE our Custom House Accounts support the Notion of any such Swell, or rather how MUCH they witness the contrary, for FIVE YEARS especially*: It must be accounted Scepticism in the highest Degree, to disbelieve the RUNNAGE of it in this Period.—Against such very glaring Circumstances, such united Testimony, a Difficulty of conceiving in what Manner 'twas perpetrated, ought to have very little Weight.—The Matter deserves rather to be noted in *British Annals*, as a Monument of what *hath been*, and consequently *may be expected*, so long as the present Policy on *English Wool* shall endure.

^m See Ch. 182.
§. 8.

127. However, besides what professed *Owlers*^m do, one other Method of secret conveyance, from Persons, and Places too little suspected, we know is, by Screws, &c. reducing it into a very different Form, and far narrower Compass than usual for *Wool*, whereon is sure not to be wrote, THAT WORD, according to *Act of Parliament*.

128. For Example, We have been informed by a *Wool-Stapler* of the very Place, who said he had seen it himself, with some others,—That in a very considerable, (*and remarkably Inland*) MANUFACTURING TOWN, had been exhibited to View, an Engine of the Kind abovementioned; of which the imagined Owner, then, and still, an Inhabitant of the same Town, was supposed for some Time to have made a large and profitable use; till, falling into Jeopardy from, if not having actually smarted under,
the

the Law—This same Person being grown exceeding wealthy, and willing consequently to enjoy his ill-gotten Goods, with more Security for the future, had betook himself to another Way of Life altogether; leaving his former Course to Adventurers, with little or nothing to lose.

129. OF THIS OPULENT PERSON we cannot forbear mentioning (because it is both very remarkable, and very much to our present Purpose) what was further told to the *Author* (after he had heard as above) by a *Person of Distinction*, who knew nothing of that Story—How in an accidental Conversation, jocundly telling *him*, what Suspicion some in his Profession lay under, of conveying the finest Parts of Wool they bought, clandestinely beyond Sea—Thereupon, said the Gentleman, a worthy Magistrate, long accustomed to hear the Defence of *Criminals* for themselves, “He immediately began to protest his own Innocence, as to that Particular, in such a very solemn, serious Sort, that *I made myself certain of his being guilty*”—And when the *Author* told immediately that Gentleman what he had heard, as related above, his Reply was, that “*though it explained to him the Manner; yet was he not less persuaded of the Thing before.*”

130. We cannot dismiss THIS SAME PERSON (who shall be nameless) without mentioning what we have been farther told of him, *viz.* that, inhabiting still the same Town, very much in the *State of Quality* (being worth a *Plum* at least) he is what they call there a *Merchant*, i. e. he buys of the *Makers* their Goods; pays for them in a great Measure by Draughts upon his *Banker* in *London*. Those Draughts passing from *Makers* to *Staplers*, they are brought into the Country, as *Cash*, to pay for *Wool*: And so far is perhaps well enough—But (to crown the Character of our Hero) in 1752, when the Combination was strong and resolute to *beat down* GROWERS, HE, for one, agreed to give no Draughts in Payment, without a proper Assurance that they SHOULD NOT be applied to purchase Wool in *Lincolnshire* particularly, *before a Time limited*. The very Time we have forgot; but it was later, by several WEEKS, if not some MONTHS, than common; and the Reason plainly was, to make *poor Growers* impatient for Chapmen, and in Course, more complying, when they should come.

131. 'Tis not a Matter of Choice, our having said thus much that hath the Appearance of what we least of all intend by it: Our concern being, not about *Men*, but *Things*: And we have only
pro-

^a See Pref.

produced these Instances, to exemplify the *double* ^a *Grievance, Fraud, and Oppression*, which is too much a natural Consequence of *prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool*.

132. *By this Time perhaps it will be objected, that we have been long begging the Question with our CUSTOM-HOUSE ACCOUNTS; for which is to be said, in the first Place; if they are not in any Degree to be credited, touching the Woolen Trade, 'tis impossible to say what is. Must the Word of Wool-Buyers be relied on implicitly? They will assuredly deceive Sellers so far as they can. 'Tis not to be expected from them, or other Traders, as Individuals, that either they should be sufficiently informed of the whole Foreign Trade at any Time; or willing to speak that Truth they do know, which makes against themselves. In short, 'tis the Custom-House Accounts that MUST, if any Thing, because nothing else CAN answer for ALL ENGLAND. And these we shall now prove to be, not only the best we have, but in the main, a tolerable good Direction.*

133. It happens indeed, as in most other Things relating to our Subject, this, of *Custom-House Accounts*, is but little understood. And besides, since certain *Traders in Wool* have found the same to make against what hath been a current Opinion upon their Authority, they have taken some Pains to set them altogether at nought.

134. *They have, for Instance, denied to the Author occasionally, and to others, that Out-Ports took any the least Cognisance of Woolens shipped THENCE—Whereupon, we produced to them two Accounts: One, of the "several Sorts and Quantities of Woolen Goods exported from London, between Christmas 1749 and Christmas 1750"—Another, in like Manner from the OUT-PORTS in that same Year: When it was immediately affirmed by the same Persons, naming a considerable Out-Port for shipping of Woolens, that they were very confident, no Accounts of that Kind were, or could be transmitted from it: And for this they quoted the Collector of Customs THERE.—The Author, to satisfy himself, desired the Favour of a Member of Parliament to learn from a chief Officer of the Customs at London, whether or no any Accounts of Woolen Exports were transmitted from Out-Ports in general, and from that one in particular? Both which Questions were answered in the Affirmative—Moreover the Author having in the mean while an Opportunity of asking another Gentleman of the Cuf-*

Custom-House, London, the same Things, he very soon brought to him *Entries of Woolens* for one Month, at the *Out-Port in Question*. LASTLY, because the *Collector of Customs there*, had been cited with great Assurance; Recourse was had to him; whose Answer was to this Effect, viz. that *Woolens exported*, except in one Article (*white Cloths*) paying no Subsidy to the *Crown*, less Attention was therefore given to *Entries of them*; and we may imagine they had but little of his Notice, whose Eye was chiefly towards the *public Revenue*. But (said he) "*the Contents of Bales are commonly understood to exceed what they are given in at, for two Reasons; 1st, for the Sake of cheating somewhat in Freight. 2dly, when consigned to a foreign Port exacting Customs, to save something in that Article also.*"

135. Having on *our own Part*, some Years before, entertained a Doubt of *Custom-House Accounts*, i. e. concerning the *Valuation* of *Woolens* entered there for Exportation, which paid *no Duty*; we received for Answer to a Letter on that Head, as follows.

Custom-House London, Oct. 19, 1744.

"You want to be informed how it comes to pass that the *Value of our Woolen Goods exported* appears at the *Custom-House*.

"First, ALL GOODS EXPORTED are entered in the *Custom-House*, whether they pay a *Duty* or not; by which Means we come at the *Quantity exported*. And the *Value* is found on an Average, by rating the same *Qualities* [i. e. Goods of the same Denomination] always alike. This is the Method that has been practised for many Years; and is a direct Answer to your Question."

136. Hence we see, whensoever the *Stile of Custom-House Accounts* is, the *VALUE* of *Woolens* exported, it does, as it always did, denote more certainly the *QUANTITY*; and that is the Point we are mainly concerned in, as to the Question before us, of *Increase or Decrease*.

137. The greater or lesser *Quantity of Woolens* exported, denotes a greater or lesser *Quantity of Wool* consumed that Way. And, as the Law stands, if the *Quantity of Woolens* exported is any way considerably less than usual, while the *Quantity of Wool* produced, with the *Price* of it, remains the same, it follows thence, that some raw *Wool* also, as well as *Manufacture*, is exported; otherwise, a *Redundance of the Material* would

would infallibly bring down the Price of it—Much more, if that Disparity continues or increases for a Number of Years together.

138. It signifies but little to the *Price of Wool*, how much more or less valuable those Manufactures exported, are made by the more or less Labour bestowed in the working of them up; or whether they are sold abroad at a Price somewhat higher or lower; 'tis the whole Quantity of Wool in them, compared with the whole yearly Produce, that (laying Runnage out of the Case) must govern the Price of Wool, as the Law is.

139. But admitting there is such a Practice, the Price may possibly advance, although the Quantity produced is more, and the Quantity exported in Manufacture, less; or which comes to the same, if Woolen Exports, though increased, are not in Proportion to the Increase of Wool; both which we have shewn, was eminently the Case from 1744 to 1753, according to *Custom-House Accounts*: Wherefore we shall now sum up in the last Place what is to be said against, or for *them*.

• Dict. Vol. I.
p. 184.

140. Mr. *Postlethwayt* holds^o, that no Man can make an Estimate of the *Value* of Woolens exported, from the *Quantity* only. They may (he says) be mistaken in several Species of Goods, as 1 to 4 or 5. And there is no Doubt to be made, as to the Truth of this Observation in Part, *viz.* in valuing this or that *Bale*, or even *Cargo*. And whereas, he infers from it, in Regard to the *Balance of Trade*, a Possibility of mistaking, to the Amount of several hundred thousand Pounds *per Annum*; although that is not impossible, yet, we think, not altogether probable; but, if true, nothing to the Point we are upon.

141. The Presumption is, that the same Quantities, in the Compass of a Year, always rated alike, according to their several Denominations will, upon an Average, be always nearly of the same Value. And if some are over, some under, rated at the Custom-House—This happening without Design, the Difference in their Valuation, from the real Value, though always something, is not likely to be much more in one Year than another; much less, in a larger Period of six, seven, or ten Years together.

142. What then are the Objections to *Custom-House Accounts of Woolen Exports*, so far as relates to the *Quantities* entered from Time to Time? 'Tis not said that the Method in which they are taken, is changeable and uncertain; or that Figures on this Head are there summed up with less Care and Correctness than their other Accounts; but that *Entries of Woolens* are *less exact*, than of some other Articles—We admit they are—How comes

it

it to pass? So far as OUR *Custom-House*, is concerned, Exporters have not the least Inducement to falsify. How then? Some, it is said, make Entries, for private Reasons, of goods never put on board. Many ship off Bales containing more than they enter, for the sake of cheating in *Freight*, and in *Customs* at foreign Ports, to which they are consigned. But both these Inducements being *always* the same, those Exceedings are likely to be practised in *all Years alike*. Masters of Vessels are not insensible of them—nor *Customers abroad*—'Tis what both connive at in a Degree; which neither would do, were they to be quite arbitrary, increased *ad libitum*.

143. We maintain then, that notwithstanding *some Unexactness* in *Entries of Woolens at the Custom-House*, even as to Quantity; yet because there is no Reason assignable why that should be more in one Year than another: THEREFORE, *Custom-House Accounts* are not only the best Rule of Comparison this Subject does afford, but a tolerable good one; since, though they don't shew the exact Quantity, in *any Year*, yet they give with a good Degree of Certainty, the *Plus or Minus*, the Increase or Decrease, *always*; but *never*, to any considerable Degree, *one*, for the *other*—Consequently, these Accounts taken on a Medium, in Periods of 5, 6, or 7, a few Years more or less, afford a good Foundation to argue and draw Conclusions from, in the Manner we have here done.

144. Which Conclusions are in short, as follow.

I.

That the Woolen Trade of *England* hath for THIRTY FIVE YEARS last past to 1753, been progressively increasing.

II.

That notwithstanding such Increase of Trade for the *Manufacture*, a Runnage of the *Material* hath been practised demonstrably in no little Quantities.

III.

That though the Woolen Trade hath been increasing upon the whole; yet not without its Ebbs and Flows, according as the Nation was at War or in Peace.

IV.

That the Price of *English Wool in England* hath not (*cæteris * paribus*) risen and fallen, as might be expected, with the Increase, and Decrease, of Woolen Exports.

V.

That, consequently, the Market for *English Wool in England*, is governed by other Circumstances than our Woolen Exports; and more, by the *Market of Europe* for Wool, than by any one Thing besides: Which as it COULD NOT be, without Runnage: So from that, and the whole Premises, is to be inferred,

VI.

That the Nation not having profited by *an absolute Prohibition on Wool*, in the Manner that was originally intended^p; but very much the contrary: THEREFORE, it is not the *due Policy* in Respect of *that Material*

^p Chap. 196.
§. 1.

C H A P. CXCIV.

Principles, or Positions towards a due Policy, in Reference to the WOOLS of BRITAIN and IRELAND.

1. **T**RUTH, however adversary, at Times, or in certain Cases, to particular Persons, is, to the Public, always interesting; and on this Subject, no less than others.

2. SINCE, by innumerable Writers it is laid down, and held for a Point of the utmost Verity and Consideration, that “the WOOLEN TRADE” of *England* had its first solid Establishment from *Queen Elizabeth*—and “that it was effected by means of her PROHIBITING † ABSOLUTELY AND

* We know it hath been urged, and is commonly imagined, that a different Rate in foreign Markets for Manufacture, makes all the Difference of Price we see from Time to Time, in the Material—But we say, as OUR LAWS are, 'tis impossible this should be so; for that, according to THEM, by all Rules of buying and selling, the PRICE OF WOOL would depend entirely upon what Proportion the Quantity yearly grown, should bear to the Quantity consumed in Manufacture, provided that Circumstance, RUNNAGE, was wholly out of the Case.

† This pretended Circumstance hath in it, for THE PROHIBITION, much of what Mr. LOCKE calls, ARGUMENTUM AD VERECUNDIAM; a Kind of reasoning, which he is far from

AND SERIOUSLY, THE EXPORTATION OF WOOL:" Therefore, it is not a Matter of Insignificance, that, evidently from the foregoing History, THESE THINGS WERE NOT SO——Neither, many others, commonly said on the Side of *that Policy*; especially this, *viz.* that Foreigners, the FRENCH particularly, cannot carry on their Manufactures, without *English* or *Irish Wool*, to mix with their own.

3. A Number, a Multitude indeed, of *Untruths*, which in the Course of *these Memoirs*, are seen to have been pressed successively and repeatedly, into one and the same *Service*, is no Sign of *their* proceeding from a *patriot * Spirit*, or of *its* tending to a *common Good*.

4. The *Service* pretended, hath been *national*, by promoting the Woolen Trade: The *Point* all along laboured, an UNNATURAL, ARTIFICIAL, CHEAPNESS of BRITISH WOOL; but,

5. The WOOL OF BRITAIN, considered by itself in the first Instance, is a rich annual Harvest;—a huge Estate, with many considerable Owners—a large Fund of private Property; on the Sale and Price whereof *are*, and under all Events MUST be, vast Dependencies, of *Taxes, Rent, Labour, and Consumption*.

6. As the *British Woolen Manufacture* is of immense Benefit: and they who conduct the Work, or labour in it, are therefore to be *respected*: So those who furnish principally the Material, ought not to be the Object of *Contempt* and *Abuse*.

7. Great and important as the *British Woolen Manufacture* is, the *Exportation Trade* for it is but a *minor ^a Part* of the WHOLE.

8. Of such minor Part exported, ONE considerable Share ^r is, to the *British Colonies, and foreign Plantations*; ANOTHER, in *fine Cloths*, made of *Spanish * Wool* only ‡.

^a Chap. 48.

^r §. 1. Note.

^r Chap. 184.

§. 11.

^{*} Chap. 178.

9. In §. 16.

from thinking conclusive—But if the Authority so built upon, is nothing more than a Fiction, then it becomes NO ARGUMENT AT ALL.

* They are in the Nature of PIOUS FRAUDS; which are evil Practices upon good Dispositions—foul Deeds, under fair Pretences: At the least, THAT PARTICULAR MEASURE, which SUCH UNTRUTHS have been brought to support, in a Manner so very remarkable, is more liable to Suspicion and Exception, than if the SUPPOSED FACTS, whereon it bottoms, had been, NOT PRETENCES ONLY, but REALITIES.

‡ Extract of a Letter from a M——r of P——t.

BATH, May 16, 1756.

" I have got very well acquainted with a Manufacturer of BRADFORD, who deals altogether in the SUPERFINE BROAD CLOTH; which indeed is the ONLY MANUFACTURE in the Towns of BRADFORD, TROWBRIDGE, and MELKSHAM—He shewed me the

Fff 2

" other

9. In regard to what Manufacture is made of *British Wool*, for Home Consumption, and for the *British Colonies*, and foreign Plantations, there is no colourable Pretence of *Occasion* for an artificial Cheapness of that Commodity; and it cannot be of any the least *Use*, for what is made with *Spanish Wool altogether*; since *that* must cost an *English Maker* the MARKET PRICE of *Europe*.

10. And therefore, a very unnatural, artificial, Cheapness of *British Wool* hath not that general public Utility, which many have pretended *.

11. At the most, admitting, some Indulgence is allowable to Undertakers † in the Manufacture: Yet is there a Degree of common Justice due to the *British Wool Growers*, if not for their own Sakes, yet for their LANDLORDS, whose Affair, properly speaking, it is, who, besides paying one † especial Tax, and all others in common, must on their Parts, give a full Market Price for whatever they consume and use.

† See
Ch. 178.
§. 9. Note.

C H A P.

“ other Day, the whole of that Manufacture, from the RAW WOOL, to the last Stage of it
“ in CLOTH—He tells me he makes use ALTOGETHER OF SPANISH WOOL; and
“ never has the least Mixture of ENGLISH; that the very finest of the LATTER will not
“ make CLOTH for HOME CONSUMPTION;” meaning, we suppose, what is called SUPER-
FINE BROAD CLOTH—But note, if *English Wool* will not MAKE those Cloths, IT PAYS
for no little Share of them—Observe also, according to the above Account, how ill Mr. POST-
LETHWAYT was informed, about the WOOLS OF LEMSTER IN HEREFORDSHIRE being
“ no way inferior to those of SEGOVIA “ in SPAIN;” how vain in Course, his Project for car-
rying on this Manufacture of SUPERFINE CLOTH “ without THE AID OF SPANISH WOOL.”

“ Chap. 184.
§. 15.

* NEITHER, if the Premises were not so, is that Pretence of PUBLIC UTILITY, from an unnatural artificial Cheapness of the British Material, other than a Fallacy.

IN GENERAL, as before observed †, 'tis far from being a Certainty, that Persons WILL SELL accordingly as they buy, because they can afford it—But most infallibly, they WILL NOT BUY DEARER, for a Constancy, than they know or find they MUST SELL, because they CANNOT AFFORD to do otherwise.

† Chap. 181.
§. 1.

IN PARTICULAR, British Merchants, at a common foreign Market, Spain suppose, or Portugal, will not, cannot undersell others in MANUFACTURE, because the MATERIALS of them were originally purchased at an Under-Value—No, besides what INTERMEDIATE DEALERS have before taken off from that Advantage, even the MERCHANTS will either raise their Goods to the Pitch of OTHER NATIONS; or ALL OTHERS must come down to THEIR LEVEL; which is just the same Thing.

IN SHORT, Labour and Brokage will always pay themselves. Merchants will not deal, but for Profit; nor Workmen go without their Wages—So that all NECESSARY REPRISALS fall in course upon the MATERIAL; there needs no ART or CONTRIVANCE merely for that End—But let Brokers or Manufacturers be their OWN CARVERS; and they will LAY UP, or EMBEZZLE, what of right belongs to Growers and their Principals—THOSE former will only fare so much better, THESE last, so much worse.

† See Ch. 21.
§. 3. Note.
Chap. 43.
§. 7. Note.
Chap. 110.
§. 4. Note.
† Chap. 138.
§. 13—19.

† N. B. We say, Undertakers, not Manufacturers, strictly speaking, because, though many Things are demanded in their Names, and pretended often for their † Sakes; yet 'tis very few that either they have any Hand in, or Advantage from: On the contrary, like Growers, they are perpetually bore down by the MONEY'D † DEALERS among them: For thus, from an Account

C H A P. CXCV.

The Heads or Outlines of A SCHEME, upon the foregoing Principles.

I.

W O O L in the Fleece, and in intire Parcels, as commonly bought from the Grower, to be subject (by way of Prevention) to a *Duty*, on Exportation—if combed, or sorted, to the Double of *that Duty*.

II.

Woolen or Worsted, small Skains or cruel Yarn, to be subject also to a *Duty* on Exportation; but in Bales of one certain Weight, after Inspection; to the End those Bales may not contain any *sorted, or combed Wool*.

III.

A *Duty*, or *Duties* on *Irish Woolen, or Bay Yarn* imported to *Britain*; the same, as before the *Statute*. 12. George II.

IV.

A *Premium* of *per Pack*, for all *Irish Wool* in the Fleece imported to *Britain*.

V.

Wool and Yarn to be exported from certain Ports only, of *Ireland*, to certain Ports, in *Britain*.

VI.

No *Wool* to be carried coastwise, or upon any River, more than over a Ferry, in the common Ferry Boat.

VII.

A *Premium* of Pence, for every Pound Weight of *British made Woolen Stuffs or Stockins*, standing the Exporter to not less than Shillings, the Pound Weight, prime Cost, from the Maker.

count we have seen, taken seemingly with great Judgment and Exactness, of *Wool* (four Sorts in equal Quantities) its prime Cost to STAPLERS: their Price to MAKERS: what those received of PIECE MERCHANTS for their Goods: and THEY again sold them at; it appeared that THESE LAST, and the STAPLER, had for THEIR OWN SHARES OF PROFIT BETWEEN THEM, a very extraordinary Proportion, viz. not less than about TWO SEVENTHS of the WHOLE SUM; which shews the SOVEREIGN POWER OF MONEY; and that there is Room to relieve the oppressed Grower, if not also the Manufacturer, properly such.

Chap. 128.
§. 11.

VIII.

VIII.

Irish black Cattle alive, to be imported to Britain, as before the first Prohibition (15 Car. II.)

C H A P. CXCVI.

^b Chap. 195. REASONS for preferring a ^b Duty to an absolute Prohibition on
Art. I. WOOL.

- I. *From the End that was originally proposed by the latter.*
- II. *From the Properties of each, as Means towards that End.*
- III. *From the Circumstances of other Kingdoms and Countries, besides Britain and Ireland, in regard to Wool.*
- IV. *From the Constitution of civil Government in Britain.*
- V. *From the particular Circumstances of British Wool Growers.*

I.

The End, &c.

- ^a 12 Car. II. chap. 32. 1. **I**T was, no doubt, originally proposed, by prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of Wool (for so the Word, *prohibit*, implies) to prevent totally its being exported; in order, as the ^c *Act* expresses, that “the Profit of manufacturing *English Wool* should be [wholly] to the “People of this Kingdom *; and not [in any Degree] to Foreigners.”

2. This

* The Nation, jealous of its WOOLEN TRADE, determined to prevent Foreigners from rivalling them, by means of ENGLISH WOOL; and therefore, too easily believing such to be a most infallible Expedient, resolved upon prohibiting absolutely its being on ANY TERMS exported—Which though it was very expressive of what they DESIRED; yet by the Success or Event, is to be measured their JUDGMENT in that Particular—If our Ancestors appear to have missed the Mark aimed at, their Inexperience may excuse it—But that is no Reason why Posterity, once convinced of them, should not refine upon the Mistakes of their Predecessors. And the great Mistake in this Case heretofore, or even now, of all well intentioned Persons, we take to be this—They were and are prejudiced in favour of THE PROHIBITION rather than A DUTY, merely through a wrong Combination of Ideas touching one, and the other; as if, because the former DESIGNS an utter Prevention, 'twas therefore calculated to PERFORM more towards it, than the latter, which implies a Licence under certain CONDITIONS; whereas we think just the contrary — Certainly, in OUR FREE COUNTRY

2. This then, PREVENTION, and consequently the Benefit to *England*, of manufacturing *its own Wool*, being the proper Touch-stone for trying the two *Measures* here to be compared, we say,

II.

As MEANS towards that END.

3. The Properties of a *Duty*, and of the *Prohibition*, are so far similar, that they have, each of them, a Tendency to *restrain* at least, the *Exportation of Wool*.

4. If for Example, a certain Number of *Pence* is to be paid, *as Duty*, for every *Pound* of *Wool exported*, the same must come certainly dearer to the foreign, than the Home Manufacturer, by *all such Duty*, Freight and Factorage besides; and these together, will, if not wholly *stem*, at least, limit the Exportation of *Wool*, beyond what Freight and Factorage alone would do. And the Quantity so exported, *will be known*.

5. On the other Hand, *Runnage of Wool*, the long experienced, constant, *certain* Consequence of a *Prohibition*, is attended with Hazard; which, Adventurers, resolving to be paid for it, do always estimate at some Price; and that, neither more nor less than what the Difference (allowing for common Brokage and Freight) is found to be, between the same *English Wools* at Home, and in foreign Markets.

6. For, consider, without a Temptation, there would not be any transgressing in this Case—But the *more Wool* is run, the *dearer* it is made at Home, if not also *cheaper* abroad. The Smugglers Inducement is consequently, and in Course, the *Runnage of it, less*. Contrary Interests thus drawing constantly different Ways; that sets Bounds to the Practice, by fixing the Profit from (which we call the Price of) it, for the most part, at such a Rate only, for which, though some are found to risque the Danger, yet are there many others, who will not.

7. A *Prohibition* then, in Consequence of that *Monopoly* it creates, lowering the Price, and thereby (*contrary to the End designed*) provoking *Runnage*, does but *limit*, instead of *preventing totally*, the Exportation of *Wool*. And so much a long Experience hath confirmed to us—Only the *Quantity exported, is unknown*.

TRY especially, there goes something to the making effective Laws, besides a bare, *SIC VOLO, SIC JUBEO*. 'Tis not, in WORDS, the most peremptory Injunction, that deserves the Preference, but in a reasonable, salutary Way, what, in FACT, is likely to avail most.

8. This

8. This, it's true, makes a Difficulty in the Comparison — But where Certainty is not attainable, Probability is a good Rule to go by—And we think it not impossible, but very probable, for a *Duty* to be substituted, with Advantage; by its being in certain Respects *different* from *the Prohibition*.

9. We will suppose, therefore, this *Duty*, in favour to Manufacturers, and for a public Good, to be the *bighest practicable*, i. e. the *bighest that WILL NOT be eluded by Runnage*—If it will, 'tis the very same as a *Prohibition*; and though increased afterwards, ever so much, can have no additional efficacy, beyond what it had before.

10. Hence, 'tis a Maxim, in Respect of *Duties*, to *lower* those which are found *too high* for the Intention of them—Consequently, by *lowering the Prohibition* that demonstrably is, to a *Duty* that *will not* be, eluded by Runnage, the *End of Prevention*, will be, if not *fully*, yet in all Probability, *more nearly* obtained.

11. At the worst, by the very Terms of our *Scheme*, that pernicious Practice, *Runnage*, being prevented; that it *cannot* be attended with any other Consequence equally bad, may be argued.

III.

From the Circumstances of other Kingdoms and Countries, besides BRITAIN and IRELAND, in regard to WOOL.

12. Was THIS *Material*, either *peculiar* to THESE Kingdoms, or *scarce* in the World at large, much might be said, which otherwise can have no Weight—Nay, if Circumstances and Things had been, as frequently represented, and at this Day, vulgarly * believed, a *Registry of Wool*, *British* and *Irish*, TO CONFINE THEM CERTAINLY, ought, long ago, to have taken place—But *these Memoirs* inform us, from the best Authorities, that THIS COMMODITY is *abounding* in almost ALL Parts of the World; and, that *no one Species of the Manufacture* is so far proper to these Kingdoms,

* The worthy illustrious Person we have before d quoted, of great Knowledge, and a zealous Friend to the Woolen Manufacturers, far from either believing or representing Things in this vulgar, false Light, says occasionally: "As the selling of raw Wool was deemed an Object of Profit, before the superior Policy of working it up at Home was learned; so the Government saw that the Buyers would look out for WOOL ELSEWHERE, if they could not buy with Security in *England*."

d Chap. 193.
§. III. Note.

N. B. WE MENTION THIS, NOT AS AN ARGUMENT FOR SELLING OUR WOOL ABROAD; but only to shew, that in the Opinion of this R—t H—b—e Author (who, we believe, judged that Matter very truly) other manufacturing Countries *can* dispense with the Want of it, i. e. CAN BUY for their Use, ELSEWHERE — The Case would be different, IF THEY COULD NOT; requiring consequently a somewhat different Policy.

but that the *same* are made in various Places elsewhere, of *foreign Wools*. And these are sufficient Grounds for not being vastly anxious about a *Drop of the Ocean*—for not laying so much more Stress upon the *Quantity exported*, than upon the *Manner of doing it*; which nevertheless, there is great Reason to think, would not exceed, at most, in the Way of a *Duty*, what has been, under the *Prohibition*.

13. If *such Duty* is properly calculated, certainly 'twould not — And if in the first Essay, it should be found too little, the Remedy is easy, by increasing it; and which we are verily persuaded might be done, even to a moral Impossibility * of its being either paid for any considerable
Quan-

* The moral Impossibility, which we conceive, is thus. Whatever Difference there is commonly, between the Price of ENGLISH WOOL in ENGLAND, and at foreign Markets; THAT, is both the highest Encouragement that can be commonly afforded, as a Temptation or Inducement to, and the lowest Consideration that will be commonly accepted for, the RISQUE OF RUNNAGE—Because, if, on the one hand, more would be given, or on the other, less taken, there would be more Adventurers, and the Quantity exported so much the more—But whatever Variations there may have been, upon particular Occasions, or by Means of particular Opportunities, the Inducement, we must believe, hath by Time been brought nearly to a Stay for the most Part.

Suppose then ENGLISH WOOL in ENGLAND, in Consequence of that MONOPOLY which is occasioned by THE PROHIBITION, to be commonly *v. g.* 30 per CENT under the Market Price of EUROPE—Suppose A DUTY, INSTEAD OF THE PROHIBITION, equal to 25 per CENT, and the Price of Wool in ENGLAND, to remain 30 per CENT less than *Par*; 'tis easy in that Case to conceive there would be NO RUNNAGE; yet the Quantity EXPORTED LEGALLY would exceed what before was STOLEN AWAY IN A CLANDESTINE MANNER. But as under such Change of Policy, and BY REASON OF IT, the Price of Wool would most certainly advance at Home: So, supposing such Advance to be *v. g.* 15 PER CENT — This, added to 25, DUTY, would be in the whole, 40, *viz.* 10 PER CENT, more than, as we have put the Case, COULD BE AFFORDED; when consequently there would be NO EXPORTATION AT ALL; which is what THE PROHIBITION INTENDS, but CANNOT EFFECT.

Now, though we pretend not to say, what the PROPOSED DUTY should be; because we know not precisely what Difference there commonly is, between THE PRICE OF ENGLISH WOOL IN ENGLAND, and at FOREIGN MARKETS: Yet that being a Matter to be guessed pretty nearly at first, and which might soon be felt out to a competent Exactness; that it would have, when so found, the very Effect we have imagined, is a Matter not to be doubted; since there is NO HUMAN MOTIVE, scarcely A PROPOSITION IN EUCLID, from which we can argue with greater Certainty, than that of PROFIT IN TRADE, whether it be secret or open — BUT HERE NOTE, Our Reasoning for the MORAL IMPOSSIBILITY of exporting Wool to any Degree upon the Foot of THIS SCHEME, takes for granted, the whole Quantity produced, not to be more than CAN be consumed at Home, one Year with another, — If it should be found more, the Surplus, when rising to a certain Pitch, WILL pass abroad, though not clandestinely, yet in an open, legal Way, the DUTY paid — That is to say, such OVER-ABUNDANCE, if it should happen (which at present is a Problem) will so FAR lower the Home Markets for it, as that a Duty CAN then be afforded, which ordinarily, we have supposed, CANNOT — While that, and the Risque (which we call the PRICE) of Runnage, bearing always much the same Proportion to each other; the former, under all Fluctuations of the Commodity, will, as cheapest of the two, be a constant Bar to the latter — Again, the temporary Exportation

Quantity, or eluded at all; just as (to use a homely but familiar Comparison) Bars in a Fence *may* be so placed, that Cattle intended to be confined, or kept out, *can* neither *leap over*, nor *creep under them*.

14. And though under every possible Circumstance 'twere easy to shew, that for the Purpose of PREVENTION, a *Duty* might be contrived, preferable to *the Prohibition*, and to *any other Measure*, besides a *Registry*: Yet do we found our Reasoning here with greater Confidence, upon a Presumption, or rather Assurance, that *English* or *Irish Wools* have not those marvellous Qualities, of either multiplying the Manufactures abroad, *threefold*, or to make *foreign Wools* of *thrice* their natural Value, by *mixing with them* — On the contrary, as this, and every other Circumstance alledged for an *absolute Prohibition*, hath appeared to be false, except that single one, the CHEAPNESS thereby occasioned; of all others, most sparingly urged, till very lately: And since a *Duty* would infallibly secure to *Home Manufacturers*, so much *comparative Cheapness*, as the same should amount to, with some *positive Cheapness* * besides—So, notwithstanding this last, this *positive Cheapness*, under a *Duty*, would not, *is not intended* to be like that under *the Prohibition*: Yet because such Difference would be a Means to *lessen*, and not improbably to *prevent totally*, the Exportation of Wool: Therefore, tis what common Sense, as well as Justice, † seems to direct; also from a Consideration had.

IV.

tation we conceive not wholly impossible to arise from Cheapness occasioned by an OVER-ABUNDANCE, raising consequently the MARKET AT HOME, 'twill first check, and in due Time put an absolute Stop to such Exportation (see §. 14. Note, common Sense, as well as Justice.)

* And this seems to be precisely what the ingenious SPANIARD (FATHER VILLAREAL) means generally, in saying † " 'Tis the principal Foundation of a Kingdom's Felicity, to impose the HIGHEST DUTIES PRACTICABLE on all Materials (serviceable to the Manufactures) exported." 'Tis also what he plainly thought in every View preferable to an ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION; which otherwise he could as easily have mentioned—And THIS POLICY, from innumerable Circumstances to be seen in THESE MEMOIRS, is, though equally proper in the Case of BRITISH and IRISH WOOL, as of any other Material; yet not more so, than to many other Kingdoms, FRANCE, we have seen §, among the rest, in regard to THEIR WOOL.

† We say common SENSE and JUSTICE both—because " the Benefit to ENGLAND of " manufacturing ITS OWN WOOL" being what was genuinely, and what alone COULD rationally be proposed by AN ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION; to indulge that ARTIFICIAL CHEAPNESS, which, and WHICH ONLY, by CAUSING RUNNAGE, so far deprives the Nation of that Benefit, is irrational, or against COMMON SENSE—Nor is it less against COMMON JUSTICE (that cannot design the Manufacturer, more than, 1st, EMPLOYMENT, 2dly, WAGES, the Fruit and Benefit of HIS OWN HONEST LABOUR) to give into AN EXCESS OF CHEAPNESS, which besides abridging him of some Work, in CONSEQUENCE OF RUNNAGE, takes from the

IV.

*Of the Constitution, or civil Government *, of this Kingdom.*

16. Which being different from that of most others, the few Prohibitions † to be met with elsewhere, are for the most part different also from this here.

15. They are generally found, if at all, under an *arbitrary Form of Government*; which having in Course a *dispensing Power*, they are also occa-

the Grower also a Part of his raw Material for NOTHING; and besides, for NO GOOD PURPOSE—Whereas, the Policy of A DUTY, in Cases of this Nature, as we think and understand it to be commended, preferably to all others, by FATHER VILLAREAL, is attended with some reasonable and weighty Consideration—It proceeds upon different and better, MORE JUST Principles—intending not so much, nor for its OWN SAKE AT ALL, a real Cheapness of Materials, in Prejudice to the native Growers and Producers (although that in a Degree is unavoidable, and therefore to be dispensed with) as either actual Dearthness, or total Deprivation, to FOREIGN, and consequently both Plenty and comparative Cheapness, to the HOME MANUFACTURER—If, or so far as, Foreigners are deprived of Materials by THIS POLICY; so far, the very best End is most substantially attained—But if they are not totally deprived; yet (which is the next best End) from a comparative dear Price to them, and the dearest practicable, by means of A DUTY, follows this double Advantage, viz. the Home Manufacturers have THAT WHOLE DIFFERENCE in their Favour; and it is besides, NOT Food for Smugglers; BUT an Addition to the public Revenue; and, AS SUCH, a saving to the People at large; something in the Pocket of EVERY SUBJECT.

† “Laws given by the Legislature ought to be relative to the Nature of Government.”

Spirit of Laws, Book V.

* There are Instances of PROHIBITIONS; and those too, for the Sake of Manufacture; but quite of another Nature from this under Consideration.

The KING OF PRUSSIA, not long since, prohibited in his Dominions, the Exportation of LINEN RAGS, in regard to a PAPER MANUFACTURE; which is, NATIONALLY, a very beneficial one.

But what are LINEN RAGS? In themselves, of no original Cost or Value. They are saved from the Fire or Dunghill, in very small Quantities, for a Trifle of Profit; and are collected from Hand to Hand, into larger Parcels, for a Gain to be made by them, equal to the whole Time, Labour and Cost bestowed—At length, they are brought to the Mill; where ALL is expected to be paid for.

But if the Undertaker, presuming upon his MONOPOLY, aims to grasp them at HIS OWN PRICE, below the Value, he will soon find himself defeated—They will neither be collected nor preserved, any longer than while ALL PARTIES find some Account therein, to their own Satisfaction—If, on the contrary, under Agents are made to be Losers, they will suffer that Loss but once; without much future Prejudice to THEMSELVES—But the Undertaker will be wholly disconcerted—So that HE, we perceive, is under the strongest Tie of SELF-INTEREST, to give a constant due Encouragement for saving and collecting LINEN RAGS, in order to uphold his Business.

Whereas in the Affair of WOOL, 'tis far otherwise—The Grower paying RENT for his SHEEP-LANDS, is necessarily a Vender of that Commodity; and may suffer involuntarily, not only once, but again and again, by MONOPOLISH MERCHANTS. And this being a great Hardship on Individuals, it must hurt the Community, as much one Way, as it can do good another—At least, the Circumstance of RENT considered, such MONOPOLISH POLICY may be stretched too far; as in this Kingdom, we think it certainly is. It ought surely to have some proper Boundary—But HERE it hath no other than the most improper, and very worst that can be, RUNNAGE.

sionally tempered; and commonly with *Licences*, an old Instrument of *Despotic* Administrations, for raising Money upon their People; in Consequence whereof, Things said to be *forbidden*, are in Fact, but *limited*. And the Supply arising from such *Licences*, stands the Community in some stead; is a saving to their Purses, another Way.

17. So that for the most Part, they are in Effect, but like unto *Duties* in this Kingdom; where an *absolute Prohibition* by *Act of Parliament* being for any Reason inflexible, and indispensable on any Terms, is what, in our *free * Country*, will be evaded for Profit; whenever that affords a sufficient Temptation; as in this Case hath been abundantly experienced.

18. Thus, what under arbitrary Forms of Government hath been practised, mainly to avail the Prince somewhat in his Revenue, or to enrich a *Court Favourite* † by a *monopolish Grant*, being very improperly copied into OURS, is chiefly a benefit Ticket, an Incentive to *Owlers* and *Smugglers*; and at the same Time, a *Robbery* ^h on the *landed Interest* of this Kingdom—That this is the Case, and therefore demands the *ancient Policy* of A DUTY, instead of that comparatively *novel one*, THE PROHIBITION, is still farther demonstrable.

^h Chap. 129.
§. 1. Note.

V.

From the Circumstances of Wool Growers.

19. Who are, all of them, unavoidably ignorant, to the last Degree; and, many of them, greatly necessitous.

20. By Ignorance, we must here be understood to signify, that however intelligent in other Matters, THEY neither *do*, nor *can*, know what Price THEIR WOOL deserves, from the State of Trade, *i. e.* Consumption at Home, and Vent abroad, of Woolen Goods.

21. This Defect of Intelligence is a Circumstance *peculiar* to them in that capital Article of THEIR *Commerce*; beyond what else THEY deal in; and beyond ALL OTHER PERSONS, who have any Commodity of Consequence to dispose of, or any Thing considerable to do with the Money for which THEY exchange it.

* And in all Countries; witness the Exportation of Gold and Silver from PORTUGAL and SPAIN, notwithstanding ABSOLUTE PROHIBITIONS, under the severest Penalties.

† For this End, the Exportation of Timber from LIVONIA, was lately said to have been prohibited (*Whitehall Evening Post*, Saturday, Aug. 10, 1754.)

22. To give one Example, instead of many, a FEEDING GRAZIER knows the Market Price of Flesh by the Pound. And 'tis a Part of Skill necessary to his Profession, not only to know when his Cattle are fat, but also to be able to guess nearly the Weight of them—So that, without taking the *Butcher's* Word for either, HE sets a Price by HIS OWN KNOWLEDGE, and HIS OWN JUDGMENT.

23. But concerning Trade for *Cloth, Stuffs, Stockins, &c.* which should govern *the Price of his Wool*, what does the *wisest Grower know*? Nothing but what *he* is to learn from *those, who have an Interest in deceiving him.* And is it by any means just and equal, that *such Buyers* should have A MONOPOLY against *such purblind Sellers*? Who are besides, many of them, *necessitous*; in haste to let go *their Wool*, in order to satisfy *their Landlord* with the Money, for *Rent*.

24. A Number of such *necessitous Tenants* being induced to take what a few *combined Chapmen* offer them; thence arises a *Country Price*; till so much is got into Hands where wanted, that others, less indigent, are finally brought down to almost, if not altogether, the same Level; which being much below the *Market Price of Europe*, is the *chief*, or rather *sole Cause* of RUNNAGE. Chap. 193. §. 130.

25. THIS, THOUGH VILLAINOUS, CHEAPNESS, according to some, is so far good for the NATION, that, however hurtful to *Individuals*, or however productive of *Runnage*, it merits (as they think, or would have others believe) *no Remedy*: And certainly it admits of *none* in either Respect, but by returning from *the Prohibition* to A DUTY—Which, say *Wits* in Opposition, is affirming, *that the best and shortest Way to stop Exportation of Wool*, is, TO LET IT GO. And what cannot *Wit* burlesque and ridicule? While, *joking aside*, such Change of *Policy* would seriously induce, nay really oblige, *Buyers for Home Use* (jealous of Exportation, and consequently fearful to give Advantage against themselves by practising unreasonably upon the *Ignorance* and *Necessity* of Growers) to observe a different Conduct from what we have mentioned.

26. And so far as *the Price of Wool* should thereby commonly advance, 'twould to all Intents and Purposes of Prevention be just the same, as if *the Duty* we have already supposed, was *so much* enhanced, with this material Difference or Advantage, that it could *no Way* be eluded.

27. Such

27. Such Advance then, whatever it might be, added to a *Duty besides* (already supposed) the *biggest practicable*, i. e. the highest, *not worth while to be eluded by Runnage*, would be in Effect, *against Transportation*, TWO DUTIES, A DOUBLE BARRIER; while still the Home Manufacturer would have both *some positive*, and a *certain comparative Cheapness* in his Favour—He would have besides, towards preventing Exportation, ALL that human Laws can do in this Kingdom (especially without a Registry) which would be having ALL that can be asked, without appearing plainly, to *covet other Mens Goods*, in the very worst Sense imaginable.

28. THUS FAR, we have argued for a *Duty*, instead of *the Prohibition*, upon that common Supposition, and a very probable, nay certain one, that *penal Laws* have not availed to the *Prevention of Runnage*.

29. But we go farther; and from that very particular Circumstance, *Ignorance of Wool Growers*, press the Reasonableness of *ours*, or to speak more properly, the *ancient Policy of this Kingdom*, although it should be thought that *no Wool*, or, at most, no considerable Quantity of it, *is run*; which Opinion hath been latterly maintained for * *Bye-Ends*, and supported with that colourable Argument, of its being a *bulky Commodity*; as in the ordinary Method of Package undoubtedly it is. But, besides a late printed Account ^k of *Owlers*, who hath not heard of several Devices and Inventions to bring it into a narrower Compass, for ^l Conveyance? However, to pass that by, for the present,

^k Chap. 182.
§. 8.
^l Chap. 193.
§. 127, &c.

30. If so it be in Truth, that *little*, or *no Wool*, *is run*; why then, the Notoriety of innumerable foreign *Woolen Manufacturies*, in FRANCE especially, making every Species of Drapery in equal Perfection and Plenty

* A Letter to the MAYOR and CHAMBER of EXETER, printed 1753, for opening ALL PORTS between IRELAND and BRITAIN, says m “The common and general Reason given for shutting up [several] was founded upon a Supposition, that VAST QUANTITIES OF WOOL were smuggled from ENGLAND and IRELAND to FRANCE—That the Author himself having ONCE been so persuaded, had sent up a Representation on that Head, prepared with a good deal of Pains”—But at the Time of his THEN Writing, it stood with his Purpose, to say, “he did not before UNDERSTAND THE CASE FULLY” for that the same (common Belief, and his own former Opinion) was ALL ERROR AND MISTAKE”——Nevertheless, the Public, how truly, we know not, hath been since told from that very Quarter, as follows, viz.

m p. 10, 21,
22.

General Evening Post, May 24, 1755.

“By a Letter from EXETER we are informed that CAPTAIN WEBB, of his Majesty’s Yacht, *Speedwell*, has made a Discovery of LARGE QUANTITIES OF WOOL BEING EXPORTED TO FRANCE, BY SOME PEOPLE THEREABOUTS.

too, with the *English*, proves undeniably that Foreigners are in no real Want of the Material from us—This puts an End to all Arguments heretofore urged for a *Prohibition*, from the supposed *Peculiarity* or *Excellence* of OUR WOOLS, *English*, and *Irish*.

31. THEY are consequently (and History affords no Kind of Reason against it, but the Reverse) in all Equity to be, if not considered upon the same Foot exactly, yet treated more nearly than they are, like every other Commodity or Produce of the Kingdom. This, we venture to say, is nothing more than what is strictly due, in mere Pity and Justice to Growers; whose *Ignorance*, otherwise, and *Necessities*, of the greater Part, expose them (as before observed) to the last Degree of *Abuse* and *Oppression*—But who therefore, the *less* they know; the *more* ought they to be under Protection of Law in that Case.

32. In short, Wool Growers (*as such*) being, we have shewn, in what may very well be called a *State of Minority*, unable to judge for themselves, the Law, for that Reason, should extend the same Care to them, which it takes of *all other Minors*, and of all other *Interests* considered to be in a *minor State*; neither suffering them to be injured by others; nor to injure themselves.

33. By this is meant: As Growers have no Rule but their own Occasions for Money, whereby to dispose of their Wool: So, Trade for it deserves to be in such a Way, that if one will not give its Worth nearly, or so far as the *State* intends*, another shall—But that is not to be expected; except by abolishing in some Degree, *the Monopoly*, and destroying consequently in Proportion, *those Combinations*, it groans under.

34. Whether then Wool is, or is not RUN—Whether foreign Manufacturies have that Support, or not, which many have imagined, from *English Wool*, or *Irish*; there is surely some Medium between suffering *combined Chapmen* to take it on their own Terms, and that greater Hardship of its rotting in the Grower's Hands—A DUTY is the *ancient Medium*;

* Was the *State* to impose A DUTY on Wool exported: As that would necessarily make it cheaper in the first Instance, than if 'twas allowable to send it abroad, without any Payment at all: So in the former Case, 'twould be understood that the *State* intended Home Manufacturers just so MUCH Advantage in the Price of their Wool, as SUCH A DUTY was calculated to give them; and NOTHING MORE. Beyond that, it ought, methinks, to be upon a Foot, to FIND ITS OWN VALUE, and in a Manner SELL ITSELF.

Chap. 179.

§. 7.

and

and we may assuredly say, the *only one*. And the *easy Execution of that*
 ° Chap. 178. *Measure* (as *Father Villareal* ° hath observed) is a great *Recommendation to*
 §. 8. *it*.

35. IF THE LANDED MEMBERS of our Legislature, who we presume to think are the Major and the better Part, esteeming this the Affair of their *Tenants only*, are therefore less solicitous about it; 'twere to be wished they would imagine for a Moment, *in part of Rent*, THEMSELVES obliged to receive the WOOL grown upon THEIR OWN LANDS; and then let them consider, as THEY would want to dispose of it again, how THEY should probably brook that Treatment which THEIR *Tenants* have now for near a *Century* endured——And if they should resent it in the Manner we are verily persuaded they would: It requires then no great Thought to be convinced, that the Case is long since become as much *their own*, as if they did now receive so MUCH WOOL, in Lieu of so MUCH RENT.

36. Calling therefore once more to Remembrance, what was solely intended by the Prohibition; and how remarkably it hath at some Times been certainly known, and all along thought, to fail of Prevention—What if our Ancestors did not foresee this; and were besides ignorant of many other Things, since known?—What if the Nation having once mistaken a worse Expedient for a better, the same hath now existed, for a long Course of Years?—Shall that be accounted a good Reason for perpetuating the Blunder?—'Tis by no means of a Piece with the improved Wisdom of this Age, in many, most other Regards——'Tis confessed that THESE MEMOIRS give a more true and just Idea concerning Wool, &c. than People of this Kingdom generally had for a long Time before—But of what Use can it be, to have undeceived them, if the same wrong Policy shall be continued, which those false Ideas, in some Measure, first produced, and since have alone palliated, from Time to Time?

To persevere in this, after all (i. e. after seeing it hath not a single Fact, or one Argument that is tolerable, to support it) merely from an indolent Disposition, and because it hath been used for no short Term, is like contending for the OLD STILE—OR, as if the Conductor of a Wheel Carriage, upon the same Principle, should chuse to labour on his Way, in deep Ruts, rather than give himself the trouble of quartering, to run upon the Nail; although not only the CATTLE are thereby miserably foiled, but the VEHICLE ITSELF impaired.

C H A P.

C H A P. CXC VII.

REASONS *for* NOT *prohibiting absolutely the Exportation of* Woolen, Worsted, Skains *or* Cruel^p Yarn, *but for per-* ^{p Chap. 195. Art. II.}
mitting the same, in Bales of one certain Weight; after due
Inspection, on Payment of a Duty, not immoderate.

1. **T**H E S E, though in one Sense, a *Material*, are in Reality, *Ma-*
nufacture. And the *Exportation of Manufacture* is rather to be
 promoted in *all Shapes*, than absolutely restrained in *any*.

2. Although the Prohibition on *Woolen* and *Worsted Yarn* in this King-
 dom is a very ancient Institution: Yet was it founded originally in those
monopolish * Principles, which *then* governed *all Trade*; but which in this
 Particular does not appear to have been so much as *imitated* any where
 else.

3. The *French* at least in *Picardy* ^q, where *Woolen Manufacture* abounds, ^{q Chap. 157. §. 8.}
 and where is the *finest Spinning of Wool* that can be seen, do not prohibit
 Exportation of *Yarn*: On the contrary, the *Dutch*, in Times of Peace,
 are wont to buy vast Quantities of it yearly. And this Encouragement
 there given to Spinning, is, we may believe, one Cause of its both abound-
 ing and excelling, as it does, in *that Province*.

4. If it be considered, of what *Use* Spinning is, for employing poor,
 and otherwise helpless, Women and Children—How *essentially necessary*,
 for upholding *Woolen Manufacture* in all its Branches, we must needs
 conclude that it is a *Work* to be regarded in a very special Manner; and
 that the People of *Britain* ought to give it more Attention than they

* In MONOPOLISH PRINCIPLES undoubtedly; although one Pretence was, that “it should
 “be employed in *r* draping;” another, that “the King had thereof NO CUSTOM, as of WOOL^r Chap. 7.
 “and *CLOTH*”—Another, for this Prohibition on WORSTED YARN was, that “it was §. 20.
 “spun of the WOOL growing, and of SHEEP bred ONLY in the County of NORFOLK, and §. Chap. 11.
 “in NO PLACE *ELSEWHERE*.” Under this last Pretence, Worsted Yarn was not only §. 8, 10, 27.
 “prohibited to be exported, but to be bought, or caused to be bought by ANY OTHER but Chap. 12,
 “WEAVERS in the City of NORWICH or County of NORFOLK”—Since then, upon like §. 12. Note.
 monopolish Principles, Advantage hath been taken of ENGLISH CREDULITY under this Head, §. Chap. 15.
 to promote a Notion, as if OUR Yarn, WOOLEN and WORSTED, would afford a Profit, to §. 29. Note.
 be^u UNTWISTED, and put a second Time upon the Cards, FOR MIXING WITH FO- §. Chap. 145.
 RIGN WOOLS. §. 13. Note.

generally do—that throughout the Kingdom, they should promote it with their utmost Endeavours—and to that End, see that it lies not under the least positive Discouragement; because, without spinning, it is little to the Purpose of a Woolen Trade, that either the raw Material is produced in sufficient Plenty; or that the Kingdom is well stocked with other, superior Artisans; or the Demand abroad for Manufacture, what can be wished.

5. If *all* Wool of *Britain* is spun at Home, the Nation cannot easily suffer—But what *is not*, will either pass abroad raw; or else *must* rot in the Growers Hands—And therefore Encouragement to spinning cannot be too much.

6. But *prohibiting absolutely Exportation of Woolen or Worsted Yarn*, is some positive Discouragement—'Tis enough to say, *it creates a Monopoly*; and by that means puts it into the Power of certain Dealers, to use certain others ill. And every Power of that Kind, *in Trade*, will be used, more, or less: And Persons receiving such Usage, will make their Reprisals backwards, even to *poor Drudges at the Wheel*; who in Consequence may be, and in truth very often have been, weaned from the Business; which once disused to a Degree in any particular Angle of a Country, is not easily or soon resumed to any considerable Purpose—Thus by ill using Spinners, through ill Usage received by those who employ them, the Weaving Trade may suffer in its Turn, for want of being regularly furnished with Yarn: All Supplies from abroad being precarious, and (as this Kingdom is circumstanced) improper; and at the most, too inconsiderable to be relied on.

7. Therefore, to secure a constant Plenty of Yarn, the Judgment is seemingly, instead of looking with a greedy Eye upon the *Commodity*, to cast a kind one upon the *Workers of it*; by well treating not only them, but those who are their immediate Paymasters. And to this, nothing in Nature can so effectually contribute, as a free open Traffic for the *Ware itself*—Such Kind of Liberty being calculated for Competition; of which a certain Consequence in all Cases is, Perfection and Plenty too.

8. As farther Reasons for promoting earnestly the Work of spinning, let it be considered on the one Hand, that we cannot look around us almost any where, without observing, how many, at present idle Hands, might be employed this Way; and with what Advantage to their several *Parishes*

rishes and Neighbourhoods: On the other Hand, with regard to the diligent and industrious already occupied in this Business, how low are their Wages at best, and what Variety of other more lucrative Works, to tempt them from it, are daily increasing — So that between the neglected idle, and the Ambition of those who have Industry, there seems in the present narrow confined State of Things, more Danger of wanting *Spinners*, than of not being accommodated sufficiently with *Yarn*, under a freer and more enlarged Policy here proposed — especially, since: As Spinning hath in all Countries, *one Use and Benefit, viz. of employing the poor* *: So, on that Account, *Yarn* is not much coveted abroad, if at all, for its own Sake; certainly, nothing like the raw Material.

8. But if some Reasons here urged for *spinning*, shall be thought to hold equally for *prohibiting the Exportation of Yarn*: We answer, besides what hath been offered to the contrary: As one good Example will outweigh a Multitude of Arguments: So that of the FRENCH in *Picardy* (see §. 3.) may be deemed abundantly convincing.

10. Lastly, why *Yarn* should not be subject to a higher Duty, Weight for Weight, than raw Wool in the Fleece, is most obvious; 'tis rather difficult to assign a Reason for its paying so much, if any at all, provided the Bales are opened and examined at the *Custom-House* — Only this indeed may be said for it: As the Liberty of exporting *Yarn* would on the one Hand take away that horrible Circumstance, *a Monopoly*: So on the other, *a Duty* thereon would give Home Manufacturers a *Pre-emption*; which, though perhaps not improper, is certainly all that in Reason can be asked for, and in good Policy, or even Justice, granted them — Infallibly, *if the Exportation of raw Wool* would not hereby be more effectually provided against, than by almost any other Expedient whatsoever; yet would it contribute somewhat towards preventing it.

* 'Twas on this Consideration, no doubt, besides its Amount in the general Balance of Trade between them, that MONSIEUR * BOREEL the DUTCH AMBASSADOR in FRANCE, * Chap. 94. made a Merit as he did to that Court, of the VERY LARGE SUM their Republic expended §. 16. every Year in the single Article of WORSTED SPUN IN PICARDY; no small Part of which was, so MUCH paid from THEM, to LABOUR performed, WORK done by the People of FRANCE — Let therefore a thinking ENGLISHMAN weigh the whole of this in his own Mind; and then say where is the good Sense of, and to what other than monopolish Purposes are, the present absolute Prohibitions here, 1, on WOOL, 2, on ALL YARNS too.

C H A P. CXCVIII.

Chap. 195.
Art. III.

REASONS for a Duty, or Duties, on Irish Woolen Yarn imported to Britain.

Chap. 197. §. 1. 1. *YARN*, as before^a observed, is *Manufacture*. The like Argument therefore, holds against *importing* it, as for not absolutely prohibiting the same to be *exported*.

2. And whatever may be said for *barely permitting* this, on certain Terms, there is no good Reason to be assigned for *eagerly promoting* at any Rate, the Importation of *Woolen Yarn*, even from *IRELAND* to *England*; which either *does* or *might* abound with the same.

Chap. 126. §. 13. 3. The common Plea for it, we know, is, that *Irish Woolen Yarns* are *useful*^a to the *English Manufacturies*. But with no real Propriety can this be said, when in truth they are not *wanted*; as certainly at least they need not to be, so long as *Wool* is to be had at Home, and from *Ireland*; and so long as *more spinning* is a Thing practicable; which every Person must be sensible it is, with proper Care and due Encouragement.

4. The Laws, and Policy of *Britain*, intend in *Ireland* a *Linen*, NOT a *Woolen Trade*. But to encourage the importing of *Woolen Yarn* from THENCE, is to encourage the *spinning* of it THERE; which, besides giving a wrong Bias to the Industry of that Kingdom, expected to be employed on *Flax*, is helping on the *Irish* in *their Woolen Manufactures*; since they will always have it in their Power to take for their own Use, so much of *their own Woolen Yarn*, as can be dispensed with there — For *Britain* then, besides taking *Irish Linens*, to encourage the *spinning* of *Wool* there, is in Effect, to encourage *both Manufactures* in that Kingdom; and *both*, at the Expence of *British Woolen Manufacture*, because,

5. So much Encouragement given to *Wool-spinning* in *IRELAND*, by promoting the Importation of their Yarn, is just as much Discouragement to the same in *Britain*; which Circumstance, and the constant Disuse it occasions of *some British Wool* (that is in Course carried abroad) may one Time or other, prove a Disadvantage even to the *Woolen Manufacture* and Trade itself of *Britain*.

6. For Example, so far as *Woolen Manufacturers* of *Britain* shall at any Time depend upon a Supply of Yarn from *Ireland*, they will so far be

be indifferent towards what is spun at Home; and that will draw on a proportionable *Disuse of spinning* in some Part of the Kingdom or another — Suppose then the accustomed Supply of Yarn from *Ireland* to fail; and the Consequence will go near to be, the Manufacture of *Britain*, suffering in Proportion.

7. Moreover, *Ireland*, we know, is very intent upon a *Woolen Exportation Trade*, as well as *Manufacture for Home Use*; to that End encourages, no doubt, *spinning of Wool*. And if *Britain*, as well as *Ireland*, does the same, there will in Course be great Plenty of it in that Kingdom. And THEIR *Woolen Trade* will make quicker Advances, by means thereof.

8. Now, though all the above Considerations shall not be thought of sufficient Weight for prohibiting absolutely the Importation of *Irish Woolen Yarn* to *Britain*: Yet perhaps it may therefore be judged not improper to tax that Commodity, as heretofore, with a View of having rather the Material raw, and by that Means, of keeping THEIR *Woolen Manufacture* at an under, and consequently, promoting to the utmost, OUR OWN.

C H A P. CXCIX.

REASONS for a Premium^a on Irish Wool in the Fleece, imported to Britain. ^a Chap. 195. Art. IV.

1. WE suppose it will be acknowledged good Policy, to prevent so far as may be, Exportation of *Wool*, in any Shape, viz. either raw or manufactured, from *Ireland* to foreign Parts.

2. And an undoubted Reason, why *Britain* hath so little, *France* so much of the *Irish raw Wools*, notwithstanding Laws to prevent it, is because they find a better Market in the latter than the former. And *Wools* being cheaper in *Britain* than *France*, is a Reason why they are dearer in *Ireland*^b than *England*.

3. But the Price of those grown in *England*, advancing, as we have supposed (by means of a *Duty*, instead of the *Prohibition*) too high, to admit easily the Payment of such *Duty*, although below the Price of Runnage: In that Case, as the *Wools of Ireland* will find a better Market in *Britain*^c: So in Virtue of the Premium proposed, she will obtain per-

^b See Ch. 85. §. 10.
^c Chap. 143. No. VI. §. 3.
haps §. 122.

haps * *all*; certainly *more* of the spare Wool of that Kingdom, than at present; THIS will discourage *spinning there*; and *Runnage* of it thence; especially, if *their* Growth of Wool, by other means to be mentioned hereafter, shall be rather lessened than increased—And if the Exportations from *Ireland* to *England* shall be confined again to *certain Ports only*.

C H A P. CC.

^d Chap. 195. REASONS for Wool and Yarn ^a being exported from certain Ports only in IRELAND, to certain Ports in BRITAIN.

1. ^e Chap. 196. ^f Chap. 84. ^g Chap. 127. ^h Chap. 13. ⁱ Chap. 21. THE Reason heretofore, for *certain Ports only* in this Case was, to the End that *Runnage* ^e might be less practicable.
2. And those assigned since, for *opening all Ports*, were, that every Part of ^f *Britain* might share alike the Convenience of *Irish Wool and Yarn*.
3. But if there was any Weight in the former, the Nation ought to be determined by it; seeing that there is none at all in the latter; because,
4. *Irish Wool and Yarn* being at best, but just the same with *British*, should they be imported to one Quarter of the Kingdom only, every other Part of it would share alike in the Consequences; which is thus to be explained, *viz.*
5. All Commodities, in every Kingdom or Country, are constantly pressing towards the *best Market*: Whence it comes to pass that Things not perishable, nor vastly remote, nor much more peculiar to one Place than another, are nearly at a *Par* in all.
6. Supposing then, for a Moment, Markets, in *one Part of the Kingdom only*, so plentifully stocked from *Ireland*, as to bring the Commodities, *Wool and Yarn*, below the *Par* of other Places; an immediate Con-

^g See Chap. 196. ^h §. 13. Note. * This again is to be thus understood, *viz.* ⁱ If the spare Wool of IRELAND, together with the whole BRITISH Produce of that Commodity, is not found more, one Year with another, than WE can consume——But, if more, 'twill be in vain to expect; in every View unreasonable to desire it, without a Provision for letting off such Over-abundance, when it happens, by the Sluice of a PROPER DUTY; especially since otherwise, 'Twill FORCE ITS WAY, IN A MORE INJURIOUS MANNER.

sequence would be, that *some* BRITISH WOOLS and YARN, usually sent *thither*, before their becoming thus cheaper *there*, would instantly shape their Course a contrary Way, towards a *dearer Market*.

7. And this Kind of Motion communicated with all the Quickness of good Intelligence, ever upon the Wing, would, *cæteris paribus*, balance their Price in every Part of the Kingdom; and sooner, and more certainly, because in *Britain*, ENGLAND especially, neither the *Growth of Wool*, nor *spinning* of it, nor *weaving Manufacturies*, are so confined and local, but that, being conveniently enough interspersed, there is a Mixture of *each*, and an easy Communication for *all*, throughout the whole Realm.

8. And therefore we say, if, *for the preventing of Runnage*, it is not a Matter of Indifference, from, and to what Ports, *Irish Wool* and *Yarn* are consigned, there is no Colour of Reason for having all open, to let out and receive them.

C H A P. CCI.

REASONS *against permitting* ^h Wool to be carried coast-^h Chap. 195.
wise, &c. Art. VI.

1. SINCE the making of many Turnpike Roads, and in Consequence, greater Use of Wheel Carriages than formerly: As *Wool* in the ordinary Method of Package, is a *bulky* Commodity, requiring much Stowage Room for a little Weight comparatively: So the Difference of Price between Land, and Water Carriage for it, is not so considerable now, as once it was: And the latter may with a View of general Good to the Nation, very well be forborn.

2. Especially, because whatever Expence should attend *Land Carriage*, more than by *Water*, the same would fall, not upon Manufacturers, but on Growers; which is evident from this known Circumstance, that the nearer Wool is grown to the Place of Manufacture, the dearer it sells, by at least all the Difference of Carriage, &c.

3. And in Reason it must do so, since it behoves all Manufacturers to
con-

consider themselves, as well for necessary incidental Expences, as for the prime Cost of their Material, and Labour in working it up.

4. If therefore, not permitting Wool to pass Coastwise, &c. shall be thought any Security against *Runnage*: As Manufacturers for their Parts, can have no reasonable Objection to its being carried by Land only: So Opposers of this Measure, if any, from that Quarter, will incur the Suspicion of being *clandestine Exporters of Wool*. For such we must believe there areⁱ, and that though it cannot be openly defended, yet THEY will not be totally silent, when THEIR *Craft* is judged to be in danger.

ⁱ Chap. 193.
§. 128, 129.

C H A P. CCII.

^k Chap. 195. REASONS for a Premium ^k on certain fine Woolen Stuffs, Art. VII. and Stockins, exported from BRITAIN.

^l Chap. 203. I. JUNCTA JUVANT. This, with every other of the foregoing Articles *, and likewise that which follows^l, is calculated to prevent, not only RUNNAGE, but EXPORTATION OF WOOL; the compassing whereof, if likely to be attended with any considerable good Effect, is worth some Cost and Contrivance.

2. The common CLOTHING WOOLS of BRITAIN are certainly no Rarity—Nor is it to be disputed, but that much COMBING WOOL also is produced in other Countries, besides ENGLAND and IRELAND—Neither have we the least Doubt of A DUTY ON WOOL, AS BOUGHT FROM GROWERS IN THE FLEECE IN ENTIRE PARCELS, making a Difference in the Price, although below Temptation to Runnage, yet sufficient to prevent its so going abroad; at least, far beyond what THE PROHIBITION HATH DONE, or CAN DO—And the Double of SUCH DUTY, on WOOL COMBED or SORTED, will be a sufficient Bar to all legal Entries for Exportation in that Shape.

3. If therefore, after this, Exportation is attempted, it must be under Cover of *false Package*; and that too, of *combed* or *sorted Wools*; and

* The first is the chief, and whereon we lay greatest Stress: The rest being intended but as Auxiliaries, they may, any of them, this in particular, be taken or left accordingly.

those

those, we must further suppose, would be chosen Parts of choicest Fleeces; such as, we read *, are used in *France*, for making particular very fine Goods, and *substitutionally* ^m to *Spanish Wool*; consequently sold there, at ^m Chap. 180. a Price sufficient to create some Temptation, that might be rendered less, §. 5. Note. and perhaps reduced to none, or next to none, if *those particular ENGLISH WOOLS* were raised *artificially* in their Price at Home, instead of being, as at present, depressed.

4. *The former*, by way of abundant Caution, we conceive not improper; and that it would be done most certainly, and effectually, by a *Premium* of, suppose, 6d *per Pound Weight* on all *British STUFFS*, and *STOCKINS*, exported; which by their Fineness, should not cost less than *so many Shillings the Pound Weight*, from Makers, that *necessarily* they must be of *those choicest English Wools* described by Mr. Savary (§. 3. Note.)

5. *Such Premium* consequently would raise, just *so much*, the Price in *England*, of *such Wools*, and NO OTHER, as, allowing a little for Waste in working, the same should amount to; 'twould be in the Nature of an additional Duty on *them alone*, even if exported clandestinely; and that, by *no means whatever to be evaded*.

6. As it would, on the one Hand, *enable BRITISH MANUFACTURERS* to give just *so much more* for that particular Kind of Wool: So on the other, if Foreigners, the *French* for Example, should not be *wholly disabled* from having it in some Form, yet would it come so much dearer to them, in all Shapes, as to render them *less able*, than heretofore, by that whole Difference, to rival therewith, *British Manufactures* in foreign Markets.

7. And though we do admit a Possibility of some Frauds, in the Valuation of Goods, to obtain such Premium; yet not of any material bad Consequence to the Nation, beyond what are sometimes also practised in other Instances, where *Drawbacks*, &c. are nevertheless thought better to be allowed, than discontinued for the above Reason.

* Mr. SAVARY says n " the finest ENGLISH WOOL comes to FRANCE, READY COMBED n See " for spinning—that they use it THERE, for the FINEST WOOLEN STUFFS. And, Chap. 153. " besides what they work into Tapestry, called LAINE DE GOBELINES, one other confi- §. 7, 10, 11: " derable Consumption of ENGLISH WOOL IN FRANCE, is for WOVE STOCKINS, which " they call DE BOUCHON, from the Manner in which the Wool is WRAPPED UPWARD " (by Screws or Engines o we suppose) " in Order to its Conveyance thither. This Wool, o Chap. 193. " (he says) IS VERY LONG, and VERY FINE; and comes READY COMBED FROM ENG- §. 127, 128, " LAND;" and is commonly spun in PICARDY (see also Chap. 140. §. 15.) 129.

C H A P. CCIII.

REASONS *for importing* ^p black Cattle alive, *from Ireland to*
 Britain.

1. **W**EALTH in *Ireland* is, no doubt, *Wealth* to BRITAIN.

2. But THAT arising necessarily *there*, as to all other Kingdoms and Countries, by *Agriculture* and *Commerce both*, 'tis scarce possible, *their* Improvements in *either*, should not have the Appearance at least, of rivalling *Britain* in one Thing or another.

3. It is therefore to be considered, in what Way the *landed*, and *trading Interests* of that Kingdom, may be so advanced, as least to affect the same in this.

4. And we think it may be laid down for a Certainty, that, of all *their* foreign Trade, what *they* have with *Britain*, is most for the common Benefit of each Kingdom; what, with *France* ^q, most injurious to *themselves* and us; even as that of *England* ^{*} was heretofore ^r, and as OUR present Contraband, with the *French Nation* is.

^q S. e
 (Chap. 114.
 §. 9.) *France*
 is like a Ta-
 vern, &c.
^r Chap. 191.
 §. 29.
^s Chap. 53.
 §. 5.

5. *England* formerly afforded a Market to *Ireland* for its spare Produce; chiefly Cattle, with *some* WOOL; and furnished in return ^s what was wanted there: But this Part of *the Irish foreign Trade* hath been in a very great Measure diverted to FRANCE.

6. *Britain* hath since given to *Ireland* a LINEN TRADE; which though mutually advantageous, hath by no means rectified that false Step (as many conceive it) *the prohibiting of their Cattle*.

7. 'Tis therefore submitted to Consideration, whether, or not, to re-admit black Cattle alive, from *Ireland* to *Britain*, as before 15 Car. II.

^{*} Here, therefore, we think proper to mention our having offered nothing in this *Edition*, touching EXPORTATION OF IRISH WOOLEN MANUFACTURE TO FOREIGN PARTS; for TWO Reasons: FIRST, because we have been credibly informed, the LAWS of BRITAIN to prevent it, are of so little Efficacy against the Bent of A WHOLE KINGDOM, that the IRISH can insure THEIR WOOLENS EXPORTED, for *half per Cent*. SECONDLY, because they can have NO VENT for THEIR WOOLENS with FRANCE; and therefore, such Trade of theirs is not altogether so injurious to BRITAIN, as hath been commonly represented; certainly nothing near so much, as THEIR EXPORTATIONS OF RAW WOOL to foreign Parts.

In

8. In *Sir William Temple's* Opinion, the Law that barred them, was at best *partial*; not calculated for *this whole Kingdom*; and *that* is a very considerable Objection to it.

9. If the Produce of *Ireland* must needs rival *Britain*: If provincially speaking, their CATTLE *would* hurt some Estates, their WOOL is injurious to others; the Grievance surely would be less to *either*, and it would be infinitely more equitable upon the whole, for ALL to share alike the Inconvenience, whatever it be.

10. But without regarding particular provincial Interests; if *nationally* speaking, the whole Produce of *Ireland* shall be thought just the same to *Britain* at large, whatever the Proportions are, of Cattle, Wool, Corn; yet is it commonly understood that a greater Share of Tillage would be better for that Kingdom at least: even as a Mixture and Mediocrity of them *all* is to be chose, rather than an Extreme of *any one*. IN WHICH VIEW, as 'twas said by Dr. *Swift*, concerning their *Sheep Walks*, that they were the greatest Curse the *Hibernians* knew: So have they never yet been, neither ever can they be, a Blessing to *Britain*; which it may be affirmed with Assurance, always did, and will, furnish WOOL ENOUGH of that Kind, for the Kingdom.

11. And certainly: As the LINEN TRADE is what *Britain* most approves in *Ireland*; a WOOLEN Trade, least of all: So the former will be better promoted, and the latter more effectually kept under, by permitting their *black Cattle alive*, than by any other Means whatsoever. And as Tillage comports best with the breeding of such Cattle; because the *Straw*, that affords, is Fodder for young Stores, not for grown and fat Beasts: So an Increase of it there, cannot be of any ill Consequence to *Britain*; where Corn receives a Bounty on Exportation.

12. Moreover, Tillage in *Ireland* (besides its being consistent with, and favourable to, the raising of Hemp and Flax for Manufacture) would be a Means to preserve and increase the Number of People; and which is more, to inure them to labour. Also a Vent for lean Cattle in, would engage almost infallibly their whole Commerce with, BRITAIN.

13. They would in Consequence then, have more Employment for working Hands, less Butter, Tallow, Beef, and WOOL, to exchange for Silks, Wines and Brandy; and be under less Temptation to serve FRANCE in its Manufacturies, Fleets, or Army.

Chap. 112.
§. 14, 15.
Note.

14. Lastly, considering that the Importation of *Yarn* from *Ireland* must always be unprofitable; and that even *their Wool* hath been so *hitherto*; and cannot possibly make for the Interest of *Britain* rightly understood, till it shall be certainly in Lieu of *so much* wrought up there for foreign Parts, or carried to *FRANCE* raw from either Kingdom: So we may be easily convinced, that ONE POLICY, towards preventing the *FRENCH* in this Particular, is, what shall lessen the whole Quantity in *Ireland*, by reducing the *Sheep Walks*^t there; which nothing can help on, but *Tillage*; nor can we name any other Inducement to *that*, like their having a Market again in *England*, for young and lean Cattle.

C H A P. CCIV.

THE CONCLUSION.

A plain Discourse on Land and Trade, their mixed and mutual Interests.

1. **I**N Opposition to, and no doubt contempt of, what hath been offered in the foregoing Work, and especially (Chap. 196.) for barring the Exportation of Wool, by a Duty, agreeable to ancient Custom, rather than by an absolute Prohibition, as at present; we are not insensible that, on Behalf of a Monopoly, so created, they who either do, or think they find their Account from it, will, instead of Argument, ply us closely with the alluring, awful, Sound of Trade—a Word, like many other good ones, frequently put for, what it IS NOT; and made to serve as a Scarecrow or stalking Engine, just as it suits the Purposes of self-designing Persons or Parties — WHEREFORE, we have thought proper to add this Discourse, plain, as we could make it: And indeed the plainest upon most, if not all Occasions, tho' not so apt to move the Passions, or entertain the Mind, yet for Conviction or Information, are generally speaking, best—Truth fairly exhibited, being in its Nature plain, i. e. perspicuous, and easy of Comprehension: While artificial Terms, and laboured Arguments, are necessary Trappings of System founded in false Hypotheses—Nor have the Powers of Sophistry been less applied to our Subject, than

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to many other Parts of Science, on which secular Interests are grafted; although contrarily.

2. Mr. LOCKE hath in very few Words given the Sum total of *trading Politics* for a NATION, under the *plain*, familiar likeness, of wisely managing a single Farm.

3. And the Comparison will so far hold in every possible *Question of Commerce*, that Persons attending thereto, cannot err in their *Judgments*, provided they are not deceived about Facts *.

4. Sir *Josiah Child*, with like Brevity and *plain Truth*, hath laid it down for a Rule on this Head, that “there is an inseparable Affinity between *Land and Trade*: They are (said he) *Twins*, and have *always*, and *ever* *will wax and wane together*: It cannot be *ill* with LAND, but TRADE *will feel it*.”

5. Mr. Cary, MERCHANT of *Bristol*, still more plainly “when Trade deadens in the FOUNTAIN, *i. e.* when the GENTLEMEN and FARMERS are kept low, EVERY ONE in his Order feels * it.”

* Chap. 114.

6. But certain Moderns tell us, on the one Hand, that “Land without Commerce is NOTHING WORTH;” on the other, that the landed Interest will *sink*, as that of Trade *rises*—That the *landed Interest* has long been the Pride of the *English Subject*; but by an Increase of Trade, has been gradually sinking; insomuch that a RICH JEW will in Time perhaps be of MORE IMPORTANCE than HALF A DOZEN REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTIES.”

§. 22.

Gen. Ev.

Post, Sept. 20,

1746.

7. Now both the above Assertions cannot be true. The first of them is so far false, that Land of itself will undoubtedly afford the three Essentials of Life, Food, Fire and Cloaths. But with regard to the second,

8. It must be acknowledged that he who carries the Purse, has generally a casting Vote in the Company—Those of the mercantile, which is the *moneyed Interest*, have always been too apt to lord it over their Brethren of the *landed*; witness, *Merchants of the Staple* heretofore; and after them, the *M M Adventurers* (See Chap. 11. §. 25. Note. Chap. 12. §. 16. Chap. 15. §. 33. Chap. 36. §. 5. Note. Chap. 39. §. 2. Note.)

* And in Fact, what is a Farm, but its annual Produce? which if a Man rather gives away than sells, he must in course be said to deceive and disserve HIMSELF—Nay though he do it to his LABOURERS ONLY, 'tis possible, notwithstanding some specious Pretences to the contrary, he may thereby more beggar HIS OWN FAMILY, than enrich THEM and THEIRS—Or, if not, he may, instead of a MASTER, become in a Degree, THEIR SERVANT.

9. Yet, notwithstanding an Indulgence due to *Trade*, and the natural Sway that *Money* bears in all human Intercourse, 'tis possible for a Community of *Landholders*, in this Sense to be *judaized* too much, if we may so use the Word; more than is requisite for a *landed People* especially, under a *landed Legislature*.

* Chap. 65.
§. 10.

10. It is indeed difficult, and somewhat invidious, to make Comparisons, as between Members of the natural, so of the Body Politic. — But if from Interferings of narrow, selfish Views, there is a Necessity of so doing; and if we will consider the Public or Community, under the Figure of a *Plant*, or *Tree*; LAND (as already observed) must be the Root and principal Stem of that *Tree*; Or if we speak thereof, as a Building or Fabric; it is the FOUNDATION and CHIEF CORNER STONE.

11. To illustrate this Truth, take what follows from *Daniel de Foe*; which though only *Ideal*, yet is much to the Purpose; since it contains, however inaccurate, no very unnatural Account of the constituent Parts, in a mixed Society, composed of *landed*, and *trading Interests*; describing the Means and Degrees by which THE LOFTY FIGURE rises; and particularly the *Base*, and *Pedestal*, whereon it stands.

12. “ I once (says he) saw a Calculation of Trade, for the planting
“ a new Town in the South of *England*; where for Encouragement of
“ People to come and settle, the Lords of the Manors (for the Place lay
“ in three Manors) agreed to give a certain Quantity of Lands to fifty
“ Farmers, who would undertake to bring each two hundred Pounds
“ Stock with them, and settle there.”

13. “ To every such Farmer they allotted two hundred Acres of good
“ Land, Rent free, for twenty Years. And if the Farmer brought three
“ hundred Pounds Stock, he had three hundred Acres.”

14. “ Thus, and with other Encouragements, fifty Families of substantial Farmers were brought to live in a Kind of Circle within themselves—The Land was good, though never cultivated before, and soon
“ returned them a profitable Increase.”

15. “ A handsome large square Piece of Land toward the Center, was
“ reserved for the Building of a Town; and at the same Time it was
“ published, that whoever would come and build upon that vacant Space
“ should have a certain Quantity of Ground, proportioned to the Buildings intended, &c.”

“ 16. When

16. " When the Farmers were settled, immediately came a *Butcher*;
" and he run up a Shed for the present, to kill and sell Meat for the Far-
" mers.

17. " But note, as these Farmers had every one two hundred Pounds
" Stock: So they had Wives and Children, and one or two ; some, three
" Servants—Insomuch that one *Butcher* being insufficient to furnish them
" all with Meat, they were obliged to send to neighbouring Towns for
" Provisions, till the first *Butcher* having Encouragement, he was followed
" by more.

18. " After the Example of *Butchers*, came in the next Place *Bakers*,
" who erected Ovens to supply them with Bread."

19. " Fifty Families of Farmers had necessarily Work for *Smiths* and
" *Farriers*, to shoe the Horses, and for *Wheel-Wrights*, to make and re-
" pair their Carts, Waggon, Ploughs, Harrows — for other Iron Work
" for their Buildings—for a Kind of *Ironmonger*, *Locksmith*, and *Dealer*
" in *Brass*, &c."

20. " This Collection of *Tradesmen* added to the Farmers, naturally re-
" quired others, such as *Shoemakers*, *Cobblers*, *Collar* and *Harness Makers*,
" *Sadlers*, *Turners*, *Earthen Ware Sellers*, *Glovers*, *Rope-Makers*, *Barbers*, &c.

21. " But to go back to the building Part, there wanted in the first In-
" stance, *Carpenters*, *Sawyers*, *Brick-Makers*, *Masons*, and their *Labour-*
" *ers*—*Windmills* were erected, one after another, as the Town increased."

22. " The Town going thus forward, a *Viſtualler* came, and set up
" an *Ale-house* ; and soon after, he was followed by five or six more—
" by which Time, the first had enlarged his into a commodious *Inn* ;
" as did a second ; and a third—So that in Process of Time, the Num-
" ber of *Public-Houses* were increased to eleven or twelve ; whereof three
" sold *Wine* as well as *strong Drink*."

23. " The Lords of the Manor then built their Tenants a Church, and
" endowed it."

24. " But to observe the ordinary Course of Things—A Concourse of
" *Tradesmen* follow a Concourse of People, as naturally, as Warmth attends
" the Approach of the Sun — This Settlement of Farmers gave a Sum-
" mons to *Tradesmen* to supply them."

25. " The Necessity of Meat and Drink brought the *Butchers*, *Bakers*,
" and *Viſtuallers* ; then a *Grocer*, and *Apothecary*, a *Haberdasher* of Hats,
" a Dra-

" a *Draper*, a *Milliner*; and thus the Town was inhabited and furnished
 " by Degrees with all Sorts of necessary People and Things—In time it
 " had a Patent for a *Market* once a Week, and for two or three *Fairs* in a
 " Year.

26. " In these advanc'd Circumstances, more and other Trades fell in;
 " such as, *Brewers*, *Coopers* &c.—*Attornies*, for Deeds and Contracts—One
 " *Lawyer*, a MAGISTRATE.

27. " The good Women also being diligent and good Housewives, they
 " spun—Hence there was Business for *Linen* and *Woolen Weavers*, *Flax*
 " and *Hemp-dressers* &c." in short, MANUFACTURERS.

28. " Thus far, the Nature and Consequences of Things—Thus Fami-
 " lies and Towns, Countries and Nations, are peopled and flourish by their
 " Commerce.

29. " Let us now cast up the Account.

" Fifty Farmers, with their Wives, and two Children each (which I take
 " be the least that can be suppos'd). 200

" Two Men Servants, and one Maid Servant to each Farmer 150

" The several Families of Tradesmen necessarily brought to-
 " gether on such an Occasion, I cast up to be 143 Families, at } 715
 " five to each House — — — — —

" Add to these—&c. &c. in all 335

1400

30. " HERE then were FIFTY FARMERS, who with their Servants make
 " up but 350 People in all; yet necessarily drew ONE THOUSAND and FIFTY
 " People after them—And wherever FIFTY FARMERS shall thus settle, I
 " INSIST that at least ONE THOUSAND People MUST of Course throng to
 " THEM, and live about them." Thus far Daniel De Foe.

31. And howsoever he might miscalculate the numbers of one; and the
 other; yet hence we plainly see (*which is the Moral of his Fable*) how great
 a Share of what is commonly understood by *the trading Interest*, is actually
 DOMESTIC TRADE; and THAT, deriv'd from, and subsisting altogether
 by, THE LAND.

32. To make the same yet plainer, viz. the Dependance of Trade on the
 LANDED INTEREST, we subjoin to what DE FOE has said, that if the sup-
 pos'd adjacent Farmers to his suppos'd Market or trading Town, are by
 any means, or to any Degree, drove from their Settlements, their Lands laid
 waste,

waste, or left uncultivated; their Intercourse any way obstructed, or diverted; by the same Means and Degrees, will such suppos'd *Market* or *trading Town* depopulate, and go to Ruin.

33. If it be said, in Favour of *Trade*; after this, suppose a Colony of *Manufacturers* and *Merchants* to repair to such Place; they rebuilding the Town, will restore the neighbouring Lands to their former Intercourse, Culture and Fertility. To this we answer, in some Cases it may be impossible, as, of Inundation, or, of the Lands, and Town, being subject to different Powers (like for Instance *Spain*, and *Gibraltar*)—But in all Cases, the Supposition is not according to Nature. For *no Manufacturers* (in the common Acceptation of that Word) will, none indeed *can* form a Settlement, where the adjacent Country is not naturally fit, and previously dispos'd to sustain them with a very great Share of their Provision, if not Materials too. The Reason is, they cannot work at all without Materials; and but a very little while, before they will have Occasion to eat—Consequently they must have their principal Supplies, of Food at least, always at hand.

34. Thus we see, *Manufacturers* (commonly so called) cannot precede *Farmers* and *Graziers*; and if not *Manufacturers*; much less, *Merchants*; who under such Circumstances, could have nothing to export; no vent for Imports—consequently, *no Traffic whatsoever*.

35. This proves that *Landholders* have really the first Place in Society; *Manufacturers*, the next—last of all are the *Merchants*.

36. It will not be denied that they are all of mutual Use and Benefit; and that the former, *Land*, is capable of receiving vast Improvements from the two latter, *Manufacture* and *Merchandize*—But at the same Time it is to be remembered, these two owe their Being, and so in Proportion, their well being, to the other. And therefore methinks it is impossible for that to be the true Interest of a *Kingdom*, or even of *Trade itself*, which LESSENS the LANDED INTEREST.

37. *Trade* indeed is a noble Superstructure—But *Land* is the Foundation of it; and in every growing Superstructure, it is not barely good Policy, but essentially necessary, to widen and strengthen, not to narrow and sap the Foundation. If *Trade* and *Manufacture* are, as no doubt they are, convenient and helpful to *Agriculture*, or the LANDED INTEREST; yet

Agriculture is NECESSARY to them both. And there is some Difference between *Convenience*, and NECESSITY.

38. And tho' it may be said, by carrying our Speculations in this kind a little farther back, it will appear, that *Agriculture* requiring Instruments, and in order to these, Artisans, &c; this proves the NECESSITY to be in a great Measure reciprocal: yet (besides that these last must be beholden to the Lord of the Soil for the *Primum*, or Materials; which gives him still the Priority) we are not here contending so much for Preference, as for a Parity, and Reciprocation of Interests; and more especially maintaining, that however Individuals may, and sometimes do, and are almost constantly attempting it, yet *Commerce*, in its best and most extensive Sense, cannot thrive by Means *injurious to Land*: That whatever Truth in Fact there may be, as to what hath been asserted (§. 6.) it is not a natural, necessary Consequence (in THIS LARGE KINGDOM especially of NOBLEMEN and GENTRY, however it may be in little Republics) *for the landed Interest to sink in Proportion as Trade increases*. And if so it is, that the one is really found to lose its Weight and Dignity, as the other does increase; the more Reason has the former, on that very Account, to be upon its Guard; and REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTIES particularly, to stand up and watch for THEMSELVES and THEIR CONSTITUENTS; which if THEY DO NOT; a principal Cause to be assign'd for such gross Neglect, is the Supineness, to say no worse, of THOSE THEY DO REPRESENT *.

39. *Manufacture*, it's true, consider'd as an Employment and Maintenance for Numbers, is justly a favourite Topic—But then, it should be consider'd, *Agriculture* in that Respect, is no less a *Manufacture* than Spin-

Chap. 194.
§. 12. Note.

* The several MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT are naturally active enough for their Constituents, in those particular Interests which they are known to have at Heart: And they are as naturally careless of what their ELECTORS apparently think little or nothing about—Hence it hath come to pass, that the ENGLISH WOOL GROWERS may be compared to Persons turn'd out into a mix'd multitude to defend themselves, hoodwink'd and handcuffed, whilst the rest are at full Liberty, with open Eyes to shift and scuffle for themselves—And no matter, say Partisans, for this unequal State of things; when all others, viz. the STARLER, and MERCHANT, shall be full and satisfied, there will be something left for them; whose duty it is (so they have been told and taught to think) *for the good of TRADE*, to wait contentedly, to grope and glean upon THEIR OWN LANDS, after others have reap'd from them.—Thus the WOOL GROWING INTEREST, tho' a mighty Principal, is treated as a mere Accessory or Underling; and all its Advocates occasionally, with a kind of Derision, that hath wearied out some; made others ashamed to appear in defence of it—But is not this a false Shame or worse, to be intimidated, bore down and carried away with NAMES, instead of THINGS? Is it commonly seen, that Persons will bear to be laugh'd out of their Fortunes, or any part of them?

ning.

ing and Weaving—*Boccaline* therefore has not preferr'd one to the other; but says alike of both, they are the Breasts that suckle and nourish the State. Notwithstanding which,

40. And tho' *Land* is indisputably the Foundation and ground Work of Society; yet because great Conveniences and Improvements are seen to arise from *Trade*; the former therefore is frequently esteem'd, in Respect of the latter, but as *Clay in the Hands of the Potter*. And so much is said to depend thereon, that it cannot be too well protected, nor indulg'd to excess. And this is granted, provided particular Incroachments and Usurpations are not mistaken for general Protection and Indulgence.

41. Wherefore, because it is far from being uncommon for Persons, under the Mask of *Public Good* by *TRADE*, to attempt comparatively little separate Advantages, at the Expence of what is more considerable and dear to the *State*, 'tis requisite to be able to distinguish rightly in Cases of this Nature.

42. For that end (without standing to condemn all *MONOPOLY*; which *Thing* being baneful to Society, the very *Word* is of hateful Signification) a proper Test, we conceive is, concerning any Branch of *foreign Trade*, to see that it does not interfere with, *i. e.* lessen what is *Domestic*; and so make the Income, and consequently, Expence of the Kingdom, and in Course the *Public Revenue*, less: In all Pretences respecting *Manufacture*, by which is to be understood, Employment and Maintenance of the People, to see that their Employment and Maintenance is thereby increas'd, and not rather diminish'd.

43. To give an Explanation on these two Heads, by an Example to each. When Dr. *Davenant*^b, and others, pleaded for the home use of *East India* Ch. 79. 81. Silks, and Calicoes &c. in favour to the *East India Company*, and to *foreign Trade*; the Parliament wisely excluded them, because of their interfering with what was more generally beneficial, *Home Consumption* of *Home Manufacture*. 2. When Mr. *Munn*^c mentioned it, as a great Advantage to the *Woolen Manufacture* and *foreign Trade* of *England*, because in consequence of an *Act* then lately pass'd, *forbidding Exportation of Wool*, that Commodity had fallen 25 per Cent, or more: He was not able to give the least Proof, either of an Increase of *English Woolen Manufacture*, or of the *Woolen Exportation Trade* from *England* (but the contrary was most evident) while by his own Confession, that part of the *landed Interest*, the *Grower*

of *Wool*, had just so much less to expend in *Cloaths*, and other Necessaries of Life; in short, on *home Labour*, and other *home Produce*, or *imported Merchandize*—So that by thus *intrenching* upon the *landed Interest* (which was so far *retrenching* the Income and Expenses of the Nation) *Manufacture* or *Hand Labour*, in other Words, Employment and Maintenance of the People, most certainly was not *then* increas'd. And indeed we think it may be laid down for a most invariable Truth, that whoever, under colour of giving a *Spring* to TRADE, aims at lopping the Profits of LAND-HOLDERS, is either ignorant, or regardless of the TRUE SPRINGS OF TRADE—*He either does not wish the Interest of his Country, or does not understand it.*

44. For note, what Sir *Josiah Child* hath said of *Land*, and *Trade* in general (and which Persons are apt to regard more in one View than the other †) the same he hath affirm'd particularly of *domestic*, and *foreign Trade*, that they “do^d (as we vulgarly say of Twins, but more truly of Trade) “wax and wane together.” And (says he) “if it were not an Impropriety of Speech, LAND might be coupled with them.”—This then is the *triple Basis*—These THREE, *Land*, TRADE DOMESTIC, and *foreign Trade*, are, according to SIR JOSIAH CHILD, *Barometers* to each other. And such we think them to be.

45. Sir *Josiah* hath said^e moreover, “all foreign Trade that doth not in its Result and Consequences INCREASE the Value of our ENGLISH LANDS. “† (the good Plight whereof is the main Basis of our Wealth, Freedom and Safety) ought not only to be discourag'd, but totally rejected”.

46. *The British Merchant* further, reckons OUR DOMESTIC TRADE to make NINETEEN Parts, in *twenty*, of the WHOLE TRADE of this Kingdom; and that “the best way to preserve OUR COMMERCE is, to preserve the best Markets “for the Product and Manufactures of our native Country”; and that “the “first and best Markets for such, are the Natives and Inhabitants of *England*,” (which is DOMESTIC TRADE) but THE MERCHANT [in FOREIGN TRADE] may have a *distinct Interest* from that of his Country”.

† For Example, it hath always been remembered that TRADE is beneficial to LANDS; but generally, when the Case requires equally a Remembrance of the Counterpart; THAT is wholly forgot, viz. that the latter is essential to the former.

‡ And we think it will be difficult to make out that taking from the Grower, FORTY, FIFTY, and SIXTY, per Cent in the PRICE OF HIS WOOL, does in its Result and Consequences (whatever other things have done, or may do) increase the value of his LANDS; especially as this cannot be, but under the hard Circumstance of MONOPOLY; and SIR JOSIAH, in one of his general Opinions, hath condemn'd alike “ALL MONOPOLIES, of what Nature and kind soever,” as obstructive both to LAND and TRADE.

FROM

47. FROM ALL THESE CONSIDERATIONS put together; notwithstanding Mr. *Postlethwayte* hath given it for his Opinion, that it would be good for TRADE, and the NATION, if Rents in *England* were lower'd thirty *per Cent.* or MORE—Notwithstanding he and others give foreign Trade the Preference, at all Events, both to its *elder Brother*, that which is *Domestic*, and to LAND ITSELF, which is the *Parent* and the *Nurse* of BOTH: Yet are we morally persuaded, if nothing is *lost*, still there is no possibility of *Gain* to the NATION, by bearing hard in a very egregious Manner upon the LANDED INTEREST; in the Article, *Wool*, for Example: Since that, lessening the income of Land-Owners and their Dependants, lessens proportionably their Power of spending, and consequently the DOMESTIC TRADE of the Kingdom. And in Proportion as that is made less, so *will*, so MUST the FOREIGN TRADE, in some shape or another, be less likewise.

48. For what, we pray, is *foreign Trade*, in plain intelligible Terms, when stripp'd of all its false Apparel? 'Tis an Exchange of native, for foreign Commodities—*Portugal*, for instance, tho' affording *better*, than *English*, *Wool*, buys our *Draperies*—We, her *Wines*—She, the former, on ^{Chap. 107.} Condition^a of our doing the latter—On a like Foot stands the Admission ^{§. 4.} of our WOOLEN GOODS in *Spain*—Not, because *Spain* produces incomparably the *best Wool* in *Europe*; and because *England* is very glad to come in for a Share of it; or because the *Spaniards* cannot dispense with the want of our WOOLENS (which is by no means the Case)—But in Consideration of our consuming the *Wines*ⁱ and *Fruits* of that Kingdom. And what is the ^{Chap. 108.} Trade of our Colonies and foreign Plantations with us? An Exchange of their ^{§. 1. Note.} Produce (*viz.* *Sugar*, *Tobacco* &c.) chiefly to be consum'd here, for our MANUFACTURES to be worn there. And who are Consumers here, of the *Portugal* and *Spanish* Wines and *Fruits*? Who, of the *Sugars*, *Tobacco*, &c. of the *West Indies*? Our own People, in their DOMESTIC TRADE. And who are they? The LANDOWNERS, and their Dependants or Labourers principally. And who are Consumers of our MANUFACTURES in our Colonies and foreign Plantations? The LANDOWNERS *there*, and THEIR Labourers.

49. THEREFORE, without being an accomplish'd Merchant, vers'd in all the practical Intricacies of Traffic, to a Man's own private Advantage, is it not very perceivable that the LAND of the *Mother Country*, and the LAND of its Colonies and foreign Plantations, do afford to each a FOREIGN TRADE; and are the main Foundation of ALL the Commerce that is subsisting between and among them; and that the Wealth and Strength of the WHOLE consists

consists in the prosperous State of ITS SEVERAL PARTS ; that the LANDED INTEREST, the DOMESTIC, and FOREIGN TRADE of ALL, thrive, or sympathise, wax, or wane together?

50. If, for Example, the DOMESTIC TRADE of OURS, the *Mother Country*, is any way lessen'd ; 'tis for that Reason less able to take off, for its own Consumption, the Produce of its Colonies and foreign Plantations ; which to them is a FOREIGN TRADE ; and for the most Part, all the foreign Trade that they are permitted to have.—This *taking off from the foreign Trade of our Colonies, &c.* As it must needs hurt THEIR DOMESTIC TRADE ; and consequently lessen the Vent there of OUR MANUFACTURES ; in which consist some considerable Part of OUR foreign Trade : So, that hurting still *more* our domestic Trade, must needs affect in Proportion, our LANDS and the WHOLE NATION——And as the like reasoning from OUR DOMESTIC TRADE may be extended perhaps to ALL the *foreign Trade* of this Kingdom ; certainly to the far greatest Part of it : So by abating artificially the Price of that very eminent Part of the *English* Produce, WOOL, to *forty, FIFTY, and SIXTY per Cent. less than par*, as hath been not only averred to be the Case, but avowed for good Policy, ¹ in Favour to, and for the Sake of FOREIGN TRADE : It follows thence most evidently, that the *landed Interest* of this Kingdom being thereby palpably injured, the NATION doth in Course suffer in its *domestic Trade*, and consequently so far, in some Branch or another of its FOREIGN TRADE also.

¹ Chap. 180.
§. 13.

51. Notwithstanding then all plausible Pretensions, and some flattering Appearances, from a MONOPOLY OF WOOL ; yet the excessive Pressure thereof (besides the Malignity of RUNNAGE which it occasions) abating the Interest of *Landowners*, and their Dependants, to the lessening so far OUR DOMESTIC TRADE ; and in that View, *some Part* of OUR FOREIGN TRADE ; what the Nation at best, CAN be supposed to gain in one Way, it MUST lose in another *.

52. And THEREFORE in our *humble Opinion*, 'twould not be less politic, but infinitely more just, avoiding this Extreme, to allow Landowners interested in the Growth of Wool, a *reasonable Enjoyment*, like others, their Fellow

* For here, considering with Mr. LOCKE, the Kingdom to be one large Farm : If the Farmer, keeping his Cash in two several Purses, calls one, foreign ; the other, domestic ; and adds to the former, his favourite Purse, what only he subtracts from the latter ; his WHOLE CASH will remain just as befo.e.

Subjects, of what is their rightful Property, and natural Maintenance. *'Twould surely be better for the Nation, instead of pillaging the Grower, which is but preying on our own Vitals, to bend its Endeavours towards preventing Exportation of Wool, and towards preserving and promoting our Woolen Trade, by other Ways and Means (and others undoubtedly there are for both) rather than by what common Sense tells us (all Circumstances known) in one Intention of it, is a most EXORBITANT SCHEME¹ OF OPPRESSION; in^m and¹ ther, as long Experience shews, and particularly that of the last ten Years, from 1744, is but AN ATTEMPT TO HEDGE IN THE CUCKOW.*

Chap. 180.

§. 13.

Chap. 181.

§. 2. Note.

Chap. 196.

§. 1. Note.

C H A P. CCV.

P O S T S C R I P T.

*I*N the Prosecution of this Work, we have taken all Opportunities to urge the Expediency of A DUTY ON WOOL, as one principal Means towards preventing, or restraining in the best Manner, ITS BEING EXPORTED RAW — And the Merits of that Policy having been rested much upon the single, and methinks to those who shall be so convinced, very striking Consideration, that AN ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION hath never yet had the Effect which was genuinely intended^a by it.

^a Chap. 196.

§. 1. Note.

^b Chap. 191.

§. 25.

Chap. 193.

OUR^b HISTORY hath fully verified this (and 'tis a good moral Argument) to have been a prevailing Opinion, an almost constant Complaint, throughout the Reigns of CAR. II. JAM. II. W. and M. K. W. Q. ANNE. K. GEO. I. and of HIS present MAJESTY, till about the Year 1744; from which Time, the Practice of Wool-running hath been somewhat discredited; also, BECAUSE 'TIS WHAT THEY TESTIFY, our Custom-house Accounts of Woolen Exports; whence indeed, so far as those are any Rule to reckon by, the Matter hath been demonstrated with all imaginable Clearness of arithmetical Computation — To make it then, if possible, still more clear; although 'tis almost a Repetition of what hath been said already, we shall take leave of our Readers, with remarking, as an Afterthought; how, what hath thus latterly been construed doubtful, is evident, under the following Dilemma, viz. that

"Custom—

“ Custom-house Accounts *either ARE, or ARE NOT, a reasonable Test of*
 “ the INCREASE, or DECREASE of our WOOLEN EXPORTS.”

Hereby is intended, not barely an Argument ad Hominem—but (because Persons are hardly brought, either to acknowledge what they don't chuse to admit, or to believe what they cannot see with their own Eyes; which in this Case 'tis not possible they should) A PROOF irresistible, so far as it goes, and 'twill go very far, of the internal Kind.

TO THIS END, *we shall only take for granted (what well we may, since nothing is more notorious; nothing more universally confessed) the increased Growth of Wool in ENGLAND, from 1744 to 1753 * inclusive; when, very remarkably, for NINE of THOSE TEN YEARS, 'twas at an advanced Price—THESE are RECENT TRUTHS.*

As then it hath been maintained by some, that notwithstanding the Premises, OUR WOOLEN TRADE hath been declining Year after Year; and as the direct contrary hath been held by others: So ONE of those Positions must be false—'Tis impossible for BOTH to be true.

*With them who hold the first, we can, as observed (Chap. 193. §. 112.) have no Dispute—And how will they (who though allowing also an increased Growth of Wool for the above Term, yet disbelieve its being THEN run) account for the advanced Price of it, as hath been mentioned? Upon their own Principles, by a proportionable Increase of Woollen Exports—BUT that there was any Increase at all, is proveable by no other Medium whatsoever, than OUR CUSTOM-HOUSE ACCOUNTS—And THESE indeed do make out an Increase, upon the whole, of such Exports, from 1744 to 1753 inclusive — Which, it must be allowed by them, either is, or is not, credible upon the Authority aforesaid — If they deny the former, 'tis not only giving up the Point they have undertook to maintain, but granting Runnage — If otherwise, 'tis affirming such Accounts to be so far, a competent Testimony.**

AND IF those are to be credited, as of sufficient Authority, at ONE Time, and for ONE Purpose—THENCE it follows that they are so at ALL TIMES; consequently, in EVERY VIEW OF COMPARISON (Chap. 193. §. 91. &c.) by which hath appeared abundantly, and most uniformly, BESIDES a pro-

* Extract of a Letter from the *West Riding in Yorkshire*, as published in the *Whitehall Evening Post*, and *Cambridge Journal*, in the Month of September, 1750.

“ By the best Calculations throughout the Nation, there has been a LARGER CLIP THAN
 “ EVER WAS KNOWN.”

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gressive Increase of the WOOLEN MANUFACTURE EXPORTATION TRADE from 1718 to 1753, RUNNING OF THE MATERIAL RAW, in a MORE sensible Degree, and with FAR GREATER Certainty of Evidence, from 1744 to 1748 particularly, than in ANY OTHER Period of our History; the Year 1704 excepted (see Chap. 193. §. 1.)

NEVERTHELESS, *from such greater Certainty of Evidence at this Conjunction, it doth by no Means follow, that the clandestine Practice prevailed then, MORE than at some, if not most other Times—BUT a very uncommon Coincidence of Circumstances (the like whereto, neither happened before, nor can ordinarily, or scarce ever again) having furnished Testimonies sufficient to set the Affair of RUNNAGE, from 1744 to 1748, in so strong a Light as to render it indisputable, THE DUE INFERENCE is, that the same Cause EVER DID, and while it subsists, EVER WILL produce nearly the same Effect; altho' it must naturally, like many other criminal Transactions, rarely be the Object of plain Proof. AND THAT IS A REASON why the Remembrance of THIS we have by a very great Chance been able to exhibit, should be preserved, as a Sample of what hath been, and which, howsoever secret, we may conclude, will be the Case, so long as, in regard to WOOL, the present System of now near a hundred Years Continuance shall obtain in this Kingdom. — Which Continuance, if on the one Hand, it affords some Argument in its Favour— On the other, those evil Fruits thereof, we have shewn to be all the while experienced, are more than equivalent, against it—For although long Usage, in many Instances, is justly held to be a very good Plea; yet we reply here (with Dr Sw—t) 'tis what, in Fact, HATH BEEN, instead of what, in Wisdom and Equity, OUGHT TO BE.*

T H E E N D.



